

COMMENT OF THE DAY

It All Rests With Russia

THE emphasis which Soviet newspapers and radio commentators are placing on the desire for new and better international relations during 1954 may mean much or nothing. The sentiments are acceptable enough; in fact they echo Western thoughts and aspirations. But the proof of the pudding still lies in the eating, and unless Russia is prepared to go beyond pious expressions of goodwill and to display a readiness to compromise over solutions to world problems, no very great progress can be expected towards what one Soviet newspaper describes as the chief objective of 1954, namely, "the removal of the causes of tension and the strengthening of honest business-like co-operation between States with different social systems."

The first test will be the Berlin four-power conference. It is in Russia's hands to make or break it. The Western Allies make only one precondition—that the Soviets go to the conference sincerely intending to contribute to positive results. A great deal of good could emerge from the discussions. There is, for example, no dogmatic opposition by the Big Three to Russia's idea of calling a five-power conference, dealing with subjects in which China is vitally interested, but there could be no chance of any such meeting transpiring if nothing is achieved at the forthcoming Berlin parleys.

THE very least which the Big Four foreign ministers' conference should realise is agreement on an Austrian peace treaty and some reconciliation of viewpoints on the future of Germany. Anything less than this must rank as failure, and would almost certainly doom prospects for easing world tension during the new year. Russia will not be asked to make unreasonable concessions in order to resolve finally the Austrian problem, but if she remains uncompromising, any settlement is out of the question. The Berlin conference is not expected to produce a complete solution to the problem of Germany, but it could and should be able to design a firm basis for an eventual agreement. Many other international issues must be greatly affected by the outcome of the foreign ministers' conference. If it enjoys a reasonable measure of success the way may be paved for a quicker settlement of the Korean problem, and would inevitably enhance the possibilities of East-West agreement on the thorny question of international control of atomic weapons. Thus the world awaits the Berlin conference with deep interest. It may be the last chance of reconciliation between the Communist bloc and the democracies on international issues. The Soviet radio commentator who declared that the peoples of the free world are sick and tired of the cold war is perfectly right; but it is Russia alone who can bring the cold war to an end and make possible the realisation of mankind's chief objective in 1954.

FLOOD DANGER WARNINGS ISSUED IN BRITAIN

Gales Strike Coastline 62 mph Gusts

London, Jan. 3.

Warnings of new flood dangers were flashed to people on both sides of the English Channel tonight—in Britain, Belgium and Holland, all ravaged last winter by disastrous gales and heavy seas.

In Ostend, police went round from door to door telling householders that the danger would reach its peak with high tide at 10 o'clock GMT tonight.

As the first big winter gale blew over the North Sea, householders and shopkeepers began removing their belongings from basements and ground floors which were flooded last year.

Tonight the wind was blowing at 62 miles an hour, compared with 56 miles an hour during the peak of last year's storm.

North gales lashed the coast of Britain, arousing anxiety in the areas devastated last year.

Coastguards warned in Yorkshire, on the northeast coast, that weather conditions were approaching the intensity which resulted in the 1953 flooding.

Bolling seas earlier today lashed the whole northeastern coast, sending many ships scuttling for shelter. High tides at Southend, in the River Thames, Dunderland, Bridlington, Great Yarmouth, and Cromer approached danger levels, but all passed the morning peak without mishap.

In Holland, dyke workers were warned of rising water levels in the provinces of Zeeland and South Holland, but waterways officials emphasised that there was no cause for alarm at this stage.

Flood watchers stood by along Britain's east coast all day today as gales and heavy seas threatened the defences just 11 months after 300 died in widespread floods.

But this time police, coastguards, lifeboatmen and civil

officials were backed by a warning system to prevent any repetition of last year's disaster when people died in their beds without a hint that danger threatened.

Today's winds and tides were not as bad as last year, although the "amber"—preliminary—warning went out from the Central Forecasting Office to officials. Public warnings, now a police responsibility, were not issued.

But gale warnings were still out tonight for 11 sea areas and the Central Forecasting Office said possible points of danger were continually changing as the tide travelled down the east coast.

A NEAR THING

At two points in York, the gale drove water over the cliffs and farmers moved out 200 sheep just in time. They said it had been "a very near thing."

After the amber warning had gone out, men of all services involved stood by for hours along the coast and in Norfolk—hard hit last time—some people were ready to leave their homes if danger threatened closely.

Farmers feared worse tides on Monday and an official said that if the north wind held—it was blowing 80 miles an hour at times—it would build up the seas and bring new danger.

Gale force winds are forecast for Monday in the area. Flamborough village, on the Yorkshire coast, was without electricity tonight because of the gale and the nearby lighthouse at Flamborough Head used emergency oil lighting.

River levels shot up too—far up the Thames at Putney.

Along the east coast, sightseers drove for miles into the danger areas to watch the raging seas smashing down on the sea walls.

Around the coast, many ships sought shelter in port from the gale.

As night fell, farmers had picked up more than 100 dead sheep from water-filled dykes on the marshes between Graveland and the Isle of Grain, on the Kent coast.

They were drowned last night when they stampeded in terror in one of the thickest fogs ever to enshroud the marshes, always misty. Farmers expect to find more bodies and one said it was the largest death toll from fog in living memory.—Reuters.



New Pyramid Discovered

Laniel Resignation Rejected

National Assembly Vote To Be Sought By Premier

Paris, Jan. 3.

Premier Joseph Laniel tendered his resignation on January 2 to President Vincent Auriol who, however, refused it, it was learned here officially tonight.

After President Auriol's refusal Premier Laniel sent a message to the president of the National Assembly, M. Edouard Herriot, asking him to convoke the Assembly for January 6 to hear an urgent communication on the government policy.

President Auriol had rejected Premier Laniel's resignation with the agreement of President-elect Rene Coty. The Premier informed President Auriol by letter today that he had asked for a National Assembly meeting to be called on January 6.

Premier Laniel's letter to President Auriol tendering his resignation yesterday read: "I was proposing to offer your successor my government's resignation as is customary on January 17. The recent switch to January 23 as the date for the Berlin (four-power) conference made it, however, indispensable that the government problem, in order to be solved as early as possible, should be tackled immediately. It is for this reason that I have the honour of tendering my resignation as from today, and which I ask you to accept as soon as the budget debate is over."

REASONS NOT VALID

President Auriol's reply rejecting the resignation said: "I have just discussed your letter of resignation with the President-elect (Rene Coty). The reason which causes you not to prefer to wait as is customary for the handing over of power to the New President of the Republic does not seem to be valid. The matters to be considered at this Berlin conference are those which were dealt with at Bermuda. As a result of the summary given by the Foreign Minister (Georges Bidault) and yourself, the National Assembly placed its confidence in you. For this reason we consider it impossible by any reason of the events scheduled on the 17th to accept your resignation. I ask you now with the agreement of my successor to continue the task which you have already undertaken with the support of the National Assembly and the Council of the Republic. I hope you will soon advise our appeal."

WANTS VOTE

Replying to President Auriol's letter today, Premier Laniel said that he had requested conconvocation of an extraordinary session of the French National Assembly, for Wednesday, January 6, to enable Parliament to pass a vote on the government's policy. He indicated that he would leave his

Excavations and investigations are now going ahead following the discovery by Dr. Zachariah Ghoneim, Egyptian archaeologist, of an unknown pyramid, believed to be 6,500 years old. Dr. Ghoneim has been working on the site for the past two years. General view of Sakkarah City of the dead is shown here—which is only a matter of yards from where the new pyramid has been discovered.—London Express.

Fire Victims Relief Fund Donations

Further donations this morning to the Fire Victims Relief Fund brought the total to \$445,573, plus £100 sterling. Cheques should be crossed and made payable to "The Shumshulpo Fire Victims Relief Fund."

Mr. & Mrs. E. E. Wall-	80.00
work	
Other Banks 35 Field	50.00
By R. A.	
Mr. & Mrs. Gavriloff	50.00
Chan Ting Leung	20.00
Miss Mira W. Sifani	25.00
Dr. & Mrs. E. L. Gosano	25.00
B. B. W. Fretwell	10.00
T. A.	
Officers Mess & Officers,	935.00
R.A.F., Kai Tak	10.00
£ said	50.00
£ said Howell	50.00
G. A. Noronha	25.00
Lau Wing Yip	30.00
Dr. & Mrs. Raymond K.	
W. Yang	100.00
H. A. Advani &	
Brothers	151.00
Collection, taken at	
Chinese Christian &	
Missionary Alliance	
Church	240.00
Mrs. Chao Hon-kay	10.00
Previously Acknowledged:	
\$442,517.30	
Sterling £100	
Total, at 10 a.m. today:	
\$445,573.30	
Sterling £100	

German Workers Arrested

Berlin, Jan. 3.
The West Berlin newspaper Telegram said today that 35 East German workers in Russian-operated uranium mines were arrested on Christmas night in Chemnitz after they had clashed with Communist police. The newspaper said a Communist official named Behrend (no first name available), deputy chairman of the Cottbus City Council, was arrested for unknown reasons. Further details were not given and the police could not be contacted by Western intelligence.—United Press.

US NEGOTIATING NEW MILITARY AID AGREEMENTS

Washington, Jan. 3.

The United States was tonight reported by administration sources to be negotiating military aid agreements with Iraq, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. These sources said an increase in deliveries of military equipment to Iran was also being considered.

This policy was reported to be a co-ordinated effort by the United States to build a defensive shield in the Middle East and Southern Asia against a possible Soviet attack in this area.

These sources said it also reversed the State Department's attitude and that State and Defense Department experts were now convinced that any idea of concluding a Middle East defence pact should be abandoned, chiefly because of "hostility shown towards the idea by the Arab States."

It was understood that the reported negotiations were going ahead somewhat slowly at the moment, especially with Pakistan on account of Indian Premier Jawaharlal Nehru's opposition to the scheme. Informed American sources thought that no final decision about supplies to Pakistan could be made before a month had elapsed.

LINKED BY FACT

Reliable sources considered that a decision would be made rapidly to extend deliveries of American military equipment to Iran, a country which is linked to the United States by a military assistance pact. It was thought that rapid deliveries would also be made to Saudi Arabia, to whose government a draft agreement and supply programme were recently submitted.

Nothing was expected to take shape regarding Iraq for some months, but it was considered that an arrangement would be arrived at.

It was further reported that no military aid programme was being considered for Egypt, Israel, the Lebanon and Syria at the moment since these four nations would be in no immediate danger in the event of a Soviet attack.—France-Press.

NEHRU'S REACTION

Bombay, Jan. 3.
The Prime Minister of India, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, said here tonight that American military aid to Pakistan would be anti-Indian, anti-Asian, and peace and "definitely a step toward war."

Addressing a public meeting here, Mr. Nehru warned that US aid to Pakistan would bring war on India's frontier.

"This business of military aid coming to Pakistan would mean a great difference to the policy India and other Asian countries have been pursuing," the Premier said.

It was natural, therefore, said Mr. Nehru, that opposition arose not only in India but in most of the countries of Asia and Africa. Mr. Nehru said he was convinced that the policy, India

Fatal Gun Fight

Seoul, Jan. 4.

The 8th Army announced today that one American soldier was killed and another critically injured in a gun fight on Saturday afternoon at the 40th United States Infantry Division.

The Army said a guard and his relief became involved in an argument and one fired a shot at the other. A second soldier is then alleged to have opened fire with his own carbine.

The bullet went through the body of the first man and struck a "third man" nearby. The bystander was killed, and the injured man's condition is critical.

The names of all persons involved have been withheld pending notification of next of kin. The Army did not say whether the injured soldier was under arrest.—Reuters.

PoW RELEASE DATE

Panmunjom, Jan. 4.

Indian Lieutenant-General K. S. Thimayya, chairman of the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission, indicated today that the Indian custodial force would release prisoners at midnight on January 23 unless the Allied and Communist commands agreed that they should be detained.

He said if the two sides did not agree to detention of prisoners, the Indians would "have to devise some means of releasing them."

The Allied stance has been that prisoners must be released on that date. The Communists want an extension of the explanation period.—Reuters.

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Talkative Terrorists Wiped Out

Kuala Lumpur, Jan. 4.
Six Communist terrorists lost their lives in the Jemelah area of Segamat, North Johore, yesterday because they were talkative.

Heavy rain forced the six armed Communists to stop for shelter in a temporary camp. As they talked to one another, their voices were heard by a

leading scout of a Gurkha patrol, who immediately led a company of the 3/8 Gurkhas through swamp and jungle until they surrounded the camp.

On the signal of the patrol leader, the six terrorists were mowed down without a chance of reaching for their weapons. One of the dead terrorists was carrying a Japanese pistol.

Two rifles, a shotgun, ammunition and six packs containing clothing were taken.

General Sir Gerald Temple last night sent the Gurkha commander a congratulatory message which read: "This is a fine start for 1954 and an achievement which would be very difficult to beat."—United Press.

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Berlin Is Preparing For 4-Power Talks

RUSSIA — "IMPROVING THE ATMOSPHERE"

Berlin, Jan. 3.

Berlin today entered a week of intense diplomatic activity in preparation for the forthcoming Big-Four Foreign Ministers' conference, and there are many rumours and reports about impending Soviet moves to "improve the atmosphere" in the four-power city.

The North-west German Radio said the East Berlin City Council had appointed a committee to organise the removal of street barriers and road blocks on the eastern side of the boundary between East and West Berlin.

Neue Zeitung, the United States High Commission daily paper here, reported that East Berlin postal authorities were working feverishly to restore telephone services between East and West Berlin, which they cut off in June, 1952.

Big Dams Built In 1953

New York, Jan. 3.

Rivers harnessed to provide power, to water farmland, and to prevent floods ranked high among changes which engineers wrought to the earth's face in 1953.

But there were also new highways, highways and great pipelines to carry liquid power, petroleum, to mark man's modern mastery over nature.

These are some of the facts gathered by the National Geographical Society, whose headquarters are in Washington, for its customary end of the year engineering review.

Most important of 1953 water usage developments in the United States was the inauguration of Falcum dam, 75 miles from Laredo (Texas), which put the great Rio Grande to work for both the United States and Mexico.

Water held back by the nearly five-mile-long earth barrier in a lake 60 miles long will eventually irrigate 1,300,000 acres of mosquito and cactus desert.

Overseas, the Society listed these achievements:

France inaugurated Europe's highest dam at Tignes, after six years of construction.

58 DAMS

Spain opened four new power plants, part of a vast river-control programme that has 58 dams under construction.

Israel, Turkey and Iran embarked upon ambitious irrigation projects.

Petroleum flowed across the world over the Canadian Rockies and beneath the waters of the Great Lakes in new pipelines in 1953. Canada's trans-mountain pipeline linked Edmonton and Vancouver, bringing the Alberta oil to the Pacific after a construction job so tough that workers nicknamed it "Big Inch by inch."

The deepest underwater pipeline ever attempted joined St Ignace and Madeline City, Michigan, across the 250-foot deep Straits of Mackinac.

CHINA'S RAILWAYS

The East and West coasts of the United States were joined by pipe for the first time as a 200-mile section across the continental divide was completed from Sinclair, Wyoming, to Salt Lake City, Utah. In a defence emergency, petrol could now be pumped either way between Marcus Hook, Pennsylvania, and the Pacific northwest.

Railways penetrated parts of the world where locomotives and whistles had never before been heard.

Brazil and Bolivia were linked by a truck from Corumbá to Santa Cruz de la Sierra.

In western China, trains were reported to be operating on a new 65-mile section of a line laid toward Sinkiang from Lanchow. The Kazakh Soviet Republic was crossed by a new 205-mile link between the Urals and Siberia.—China Mail Special.

Allied officials here think the Russians will seek alternate conference sessions in East and West Berlin.

The Western powers might agree to this if the East Berlin side offered the same facilities for news reporting as a site in West Berlin, and this would have to include ample telephone connections.

The British Commandant in Berlin, Major-General C. F. C. Coleman, is expected to invite his French, United States and Soviet colleagues to confer on Monday or on Tuesday on a site and technical arrangements for the conference.

CONFERENCE SITE Allied officials said the invitation would be issued by General Coleman because he is this month's chairman of the four-power Kommandatura.

Under a monthly rota still adhered to—although the Kommandatura has been defunct since June, 1948.

The most important decision for the commandants is the conference site.

The Western commandants will propose as the most suitable site the former Allied Control Authority centre, only a short distance from the building which has been prepared for more than 1,000 reporters, radio and newspaper men expected for the conference.

On Tuesday the American High Commissioner, Mr. James B. Conant, and the French High Commissioner, M. André François Poncet, are due in Berlin.

Mr. Conant is to introduce Mr. Henry Parkman, his new deputy, and M. François Poncet is to look into conference preparations.

ORDERS FROM MOSCOW

The West German news agency, DPA, said the Soviet High Commissioner, M. Vladimir Semenov, is expected to return to Berlin this week from Moscow with instructions for his Berlin representative, Mr. Sergei Denigh, who will confer with them on the conference preparations.

Even though three of the High Commissioners might thus be in Berlin this week, and the fourth could easily join them at a few hours' notice, Allied officials here do not expect them to discuss the conference arrangements.

They recalled the Soviet and Western notes' reference to talks between representatives of the High Commissioners.

They think none of the four powers wanted a fully fledged High Commission meeting to precede the Foreign Ministers' conference.—Reuter.

Soviet Captive Returns To U.S.

Bremenhaven, Jan. 3. Leland Towers, 29, from San Francisco, who was released last week after two years in Soviet captivity, arrived today on his way to the United States.

The State Department sent Towers to Berlin to Bremenhaven and will pay his passage home. The sailing date has not been set.

Towers told newsmen he was arrested by the Soviets when he cut his way through the Finnish-Soviet frontier because he wanted to see life in Russia.—United Press.

A Typewriter Of Wood Made In 1864

Berlin, Jan. 3. A typewriter exhibition at Dresden, East Germany, shows a wooden machine, built in 1864 which placed the letters into the paper instead of printing them.

It was built by a South Tyrolean carpenter named Mitterhofer.

A Dresden "pneumatic" typewriter, built in 1913, operated the types by compressed air.

The most modern exhibit is a 2,500 — type Chinese typewriter built by the state-owned Optima factory at Erlang, Thuringia.—China Mail Special.

Turkish-Iraq Relations

Baghdad, Jan. 3.

The Premier of Iraq, Fadel Jamali, told the Parliament tonight that the Government would not stop trying to reconcile Turkish-Iraq differences and would definitely not do anything to antagonise Turkey.

In answer to a question as to whether relations with Turkey might be reconsidered in the light of Turkey's hostile attitude to the aspirations of the Arab nations, Premier Jamali said that he hoped Turkey would soon "take the path of equity and justice again."

Any reconsideration of attitude toward Turkey would not help the Arab countries but would only react to the benefit of Zionism, he said.

The Premier made his statement after five days of debate on the King's Speech from the Throne which had laid down the Jamali Government's policy since its formation last September.

Three sessions of Parliament have been held each day, and the debate is expected to end tomorrow. A shorter debate in the Senate will then follow.

The Premier is due to attend a Committee meeting of the Arab League on Jan. 9.—France-Press.

Jagan—"Troops Saved The Sugar Planters"

Lahore, Jan. 3.

Dr Cheddi Jagan, the ex-premier of British Guiana, told a meeting here tonight that the main reason for his party's deposition was that they wanted to run the government in the interests of the worker and that the charge of the bogey of Communism was raised only to divert public attention.

The issue at stake was not Communism, he said, but whether there should be self-government or not.

Amid cheers Dr Jagan added that they would not rely on British promises, but would rely on their own devices and the support of the progressive peoples of the world.

Dr Jagan said that British troops had been landed in Guiana not to restore the government, but to save the sugar planters.

He made the claim that his party had been labelled Communist because it wanted to introduce progressive legislation.

He added that his followers had wanted to give universal franchise to the people who had been deprived of suffrage for 150 years and were expected to love their country.—France-Press.

Burma Strives For Internal Peace

Rangoon, Jan. 3.

Burma will today celebrate the sixth anniversary of its independence with the hope that internal peace will be achieved in 1954 to help the country carry out its ambitious programme for recovery and development.

Though Burma has made strides towards building up agriculture and industry, dislocated by four years of war and almost continual insurgent activity since independence, full implementation of the carefully laid recovery plans is still held up by the unsettled state of the country.

In addition to the problem of the insurgents, Burma seems threatened with a major economic crisis in her one great export industry of rice growing.

By maintaining high prices when world markets were dropping, Burma has more than 7,000 tons of last year's surplus rice in store and with a new harvest just beginning, another one and a half million tons seems likely to be added.

Trade agreements with Ceylon and Japan will take 6,000 tons of this, but there are no readily apparent buyers for the remainder if, as seems likely, Burma maintains high prices.

In the past year, Government forces have had great success against the Communist and Karen rebels and the Chinese Nationalist guerrillas, whose depredations and constant harrying attacks have made the tasks facing the country even harder.

The Communists have been dispersed into small groups and

the Karens, who six weeks ago looked likely to take possession of the whole rich rubber and tin producing belt in Tenasserim, southern Burma, have been defeated in two major and probably decisive battles at Mawchi and north of Moulmein.

After many months of discussion at Bangkok, evacuation of Chinese Nationalist soldiers from Burma began and 2,000, which the Nationalist Government said were controlled from Formosa, have been withdrawn.

But at least 12,000 well-armed Chinese remain in Burma. They are raiding villages in Kengtung state and have also joined hands with the Karens in the Tenasserim.

BIG MINERAL PRODUCER

The opening on Wednesday of a new oil refinery at Chauk and the recapture of mines, notably the British-owned wolfram mines at Mawchi, give promise of a start being made towards a return by Burma to her pre-war position as the great mineral producer of South-East Asia.

As one of the foremost Buddhist countries of the world, Burma is next May to organise a great Buddhist council which will be the sixth to be held in 2,500 years.

Delegates from all over the world, including the rulers and Ministers of neighbouring states, are expected in Rangoon for the opening of the council which will last for two years.—China Mail Special.

QUEEN'S ALHAMBRA

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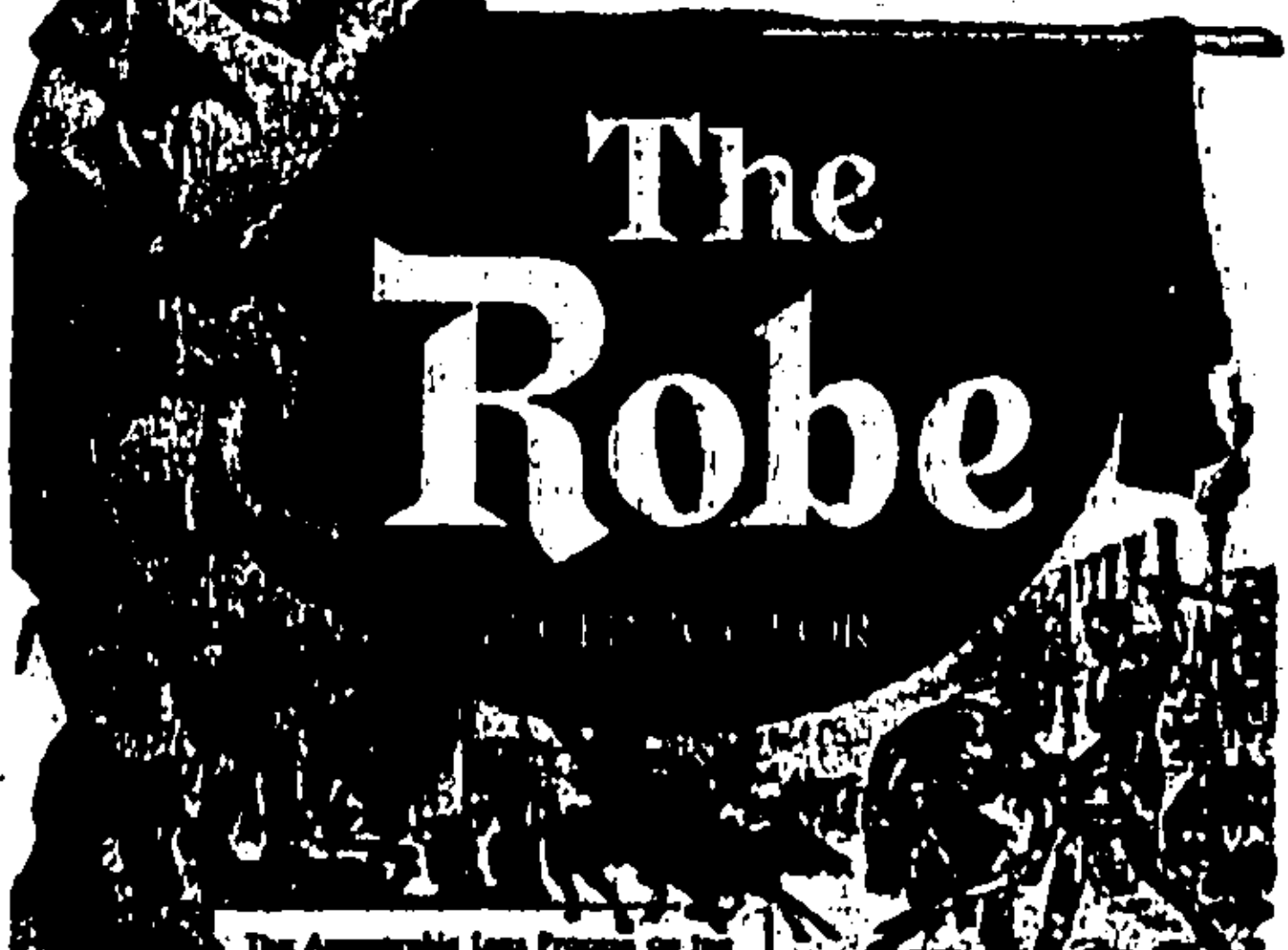
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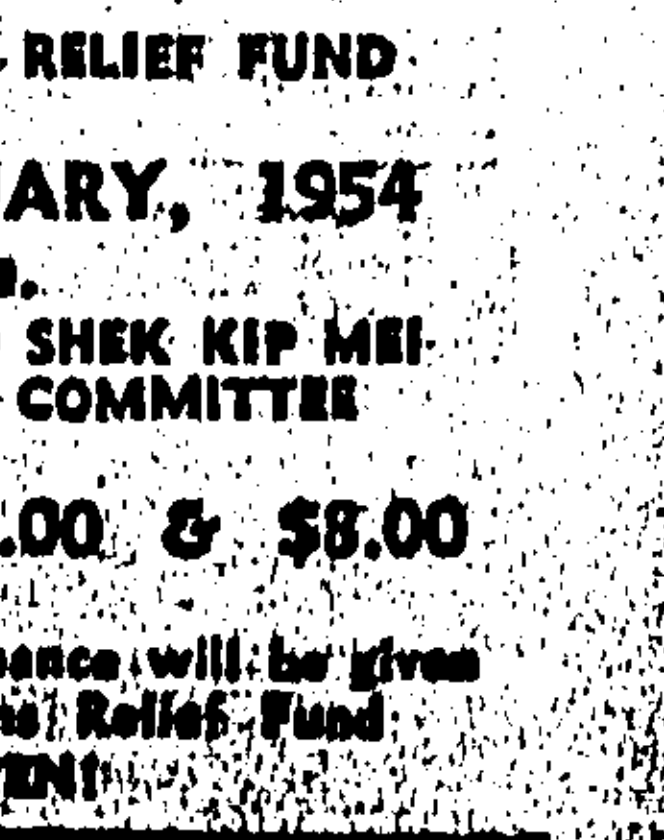
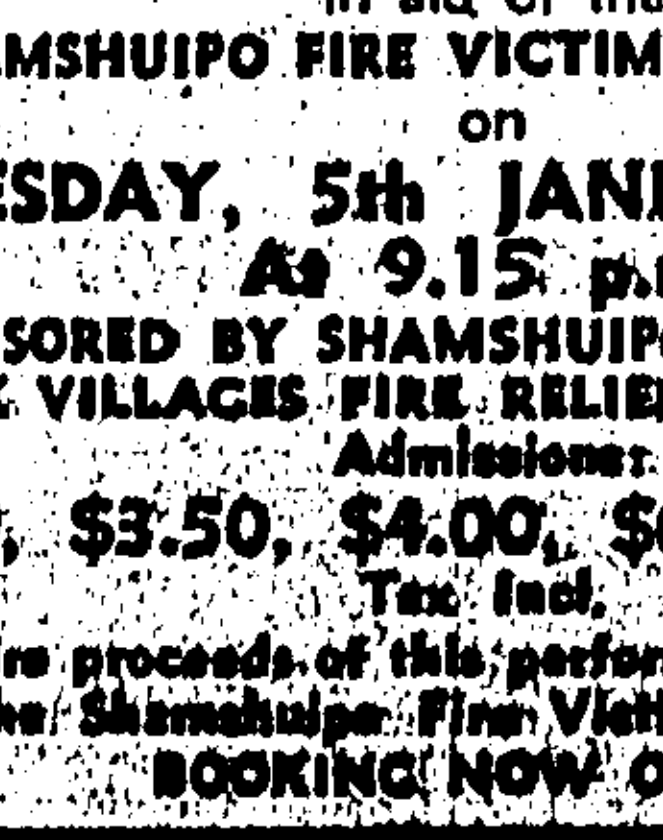
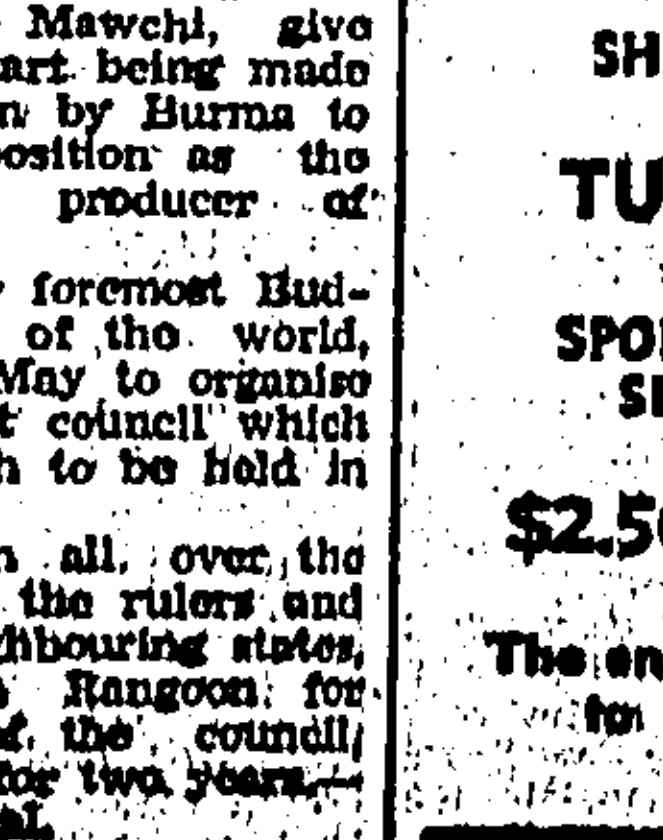
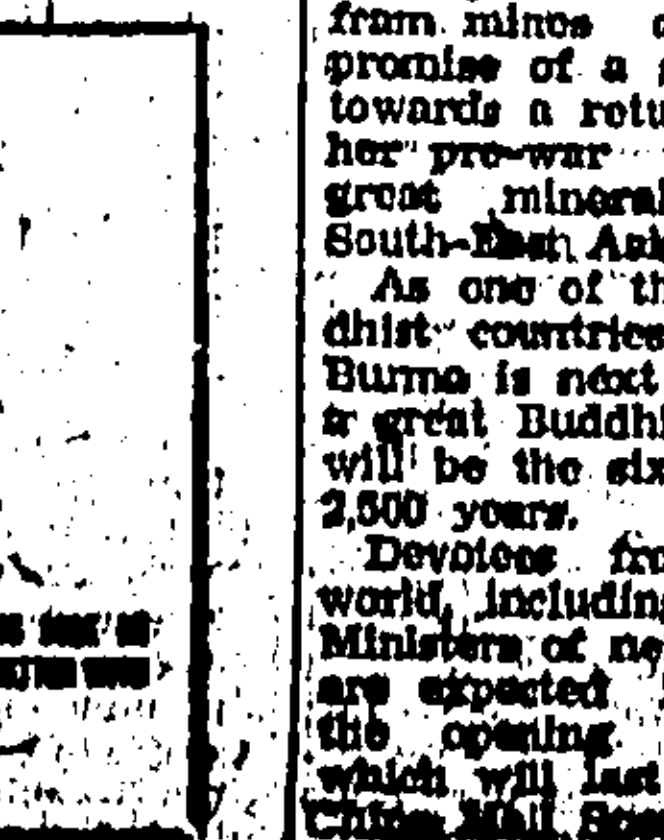
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AMERICA WAITS FOR IKE'S "DYNAMIC" PLANS

His "State Of Union" Address To Be Heard On Thursday

Washington, Jan. 3.

The second session of the 83rd Congress of the United States will convene on Wednesday and prepare to hear President Eisenhower's "State of the Union" message on the following day.

President Eisenhower was flying back to Washington today with work almost completed on his address and two other documents going to Congress soon.

Ending a visit to Augusta, Georgia, which started on Christmas Day, the President faces one of the busiest weeks since he took office.

On Monday morning he conferred at the White House with Republican Congressional leaders and members of his Cabinet. They will probably have a preview of the latest draft of the State of the Union message outlining the Administration's 1954 legislative programme.

On Monday night Mr. Eisenhower will report to the nation on television and radio on the Administration's first year. He will also set forth future goals.

Democratic leaders in Congress will have a preview on Tuesday morning of sections of the message dealing with foreign affairs and national defence, and possibly other matters.

Twenty-four hours after Congress convenes on Wednesday, the President goes before a joint session of the Senate and House of Representatives to deliver the message in person.

The annual budget message and the economic report will go to Congress a few days later.

SEPARATE BILLS
The President plans to follow up the State of the Union, budget and economic messages to Congress with a series of separate documents dealing with a revised tax programme, amendments to the Taft-Hartley labour law, an "improved" farm programme, expansion of the social security programme and public health benefits, and for a broad new "revised" housing programme.

In the House of Representatives on Thursday, 218 Republicans, 216 Democrats, and one Independent are eligible to take their seats. There are no vacancies as three seats were filled by special elections in November.

In the Senate there will be 48 Democrats, 47 Republicans, and one Independent. The latter is Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon who refused to support Eisenhower in 1952, but votes with the Republicans on strictly organisational matters related to Senate competition, thus enabling continued Republican control.

The close line-up in both Houses suggests uncertain results in important votes during the next half year, and the possibility of Eisenhower setbacks on some legislation which could be frustrated by unlimited debate in the Senate.

LACKED USUAL TENSION

The week-end prior to the return of Congress to Capitol Hill lacked the usual tension of an imminent political struggle, because both Republican and Democratic parties were awaiting the terms of the "dynamic and progressive" programme which the President himself forecast.

In political circles the major theme of speculation was whether President Eisenhower will be able to present and obtain enactment of new laws, particularly in domestic economic affairs, which will give permanence to the present Republican Party control of the United States government.

Events in Congress during the next half year will greatly influence results in the Congressional elections next Nov. 2. The President has first to consolidate his support among Republican Representatives and Senators, and then to take a course which will deprive the Democratic Party leaders of dramatic new issues.

The Democratic leadership in Congress has a problem of strategy. It can support many of the Eisenhower proposals on grounds that they will serve "the best interests of the country." Or it can adopt a general course intended to detract from the prestige of a Republican-controlled Congress preparatory to the November elections.

The Democratic leaders presumably will take a cautious course until early votes reveal whether Mr. Eisenhower can establish solidarity among Congressmen and Senators of his own party.

DIFFICULT FIELD

Many political observers believe that external events since the first session of the 83rd Congress adjourned on Aug. 3 have strengthened the position of the White House in the always

difficult field of relations between the executive and legislative branches.

During the recess there was no general agitation for a "special session" of Congress. Despite the drought in South-western agricultural areas and a slump in cattle prices, Congress was willing to leave the problem temporarily in the hands of the executive branch.

The difficult problem of racial relations, usually referred to as "civil rights," became less burdensome to both Congress and the executive after the Supreme Court undertook a review of States' cases affecting equality in education.

President Eisenhower's ascendancy in foreign affairs was helped by the prospects for a four-power conference in Berlin, and by favourable reaction of the free world to his speech to the United Nations on international use of atomic energy for civilian purposes. The size of foreign aid and the internal structure of the security programme will be sharply controversial.

"POSSIBILITIES"
If Republican leadership in Congress should prove weak, or if the Eisenhower programme fails to enthrone the public, potential Democratic Presidential "possibilities" in the United States Senate will get steadily increasing attention from the galleries.

Among such "possibilities" are Senator Richard Russell of Georgia, Senator Estes Kefauver of Tennessee, Senator Stuart Symington of Missouri, and Senator Lyndon Johnson, Democratic floor leader, from Texas.

The business world will be extremely interested in the activities of Senator Eugene D. Milliken, Republican of Colorado. He is a member of the Randall Commission on Foreign Economic Relations and chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and is recognized as the Senator most competent to work out compromises between "protectionist" and "liberal trade" elements within the Senate.

From the viewpoint of the galleries and the public generally, Senator Joseph R. McCarthy, Republican of Wisconsin, will get the lion's share of attention because of the controversy as to whether his management of anti-Communist investigations has jeopardised the principle of "civil liberties."

The terms on which the funds will be authorised for continuance of his investigations may lead to one of the most dramatic episodes of the coming session.—United Press.

Greek Singer Married In London



Dressed in rose pink, with a milk coat, Kiki Kazakos, Greek International Singing Star, who is well-known on the Continent as a singing motorist, weds Mr Edward Spencer, a London antiquarian bookseller, at a ceremony in London. The couple met a year ago at Cannes when Kiki was attending the film festival, and the groom was at the International Conference of Antiquarian Booksellers.—Express Photo.

There's No Future For A Robber In Russia

Moscow, Jan. 3.

A robber in modern Soviet society counts himself lucky if he gets off with a ten year sentence. Judges in the People's Courts, in a series of much publicised criminal trials, have recently awarded a number of 25-year sentences for robbery with violence.

"For The Love Of A Lady..."

Denver, Jan. 3.
Fred Lilly, Jr., 18-year-old University of Denver freshman, pushed a walnut with his nose for 14 blocks to win a chance to court his best friend's girl. It took him five hours.

Meanwhile, Paul Brown, 18, the "best friend" and Diane Davis, 16, the object of their affections, sat in the Denver public library and collaborated on a college theme about campus petting.

Lilly told Brown he intended to "steal your girl," Brown said that if his buddy could push a walnut with his nose from his residence to the living room at Diane's home—a distance of 14 blocks—in 24 hours he would stand aside and let Lilly court Diane for two weeks.

His nose was red and tender and his back a bit stiff today but otherwise Lilly was none the worse for the feat performed yesterday.—United Press.

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Professor Hideo Tazuga, Secretary-General of the Japanese Association of Democratic Scientists, addressed the biological section of the USSR Academy of Sciences in Moscow today. Tazuga, the Soviet news agency reported.

Professor Tazuga's report dealt with contemporary science in Japan and was well received by his listeners, Tass said. There were many questions put to the speaker.

Factory buildings for Peking's first cotton mill were completed by the end of 1953 and production is scheduled to start before May Day this year.

Twice as many teams and drills were operating in 1953 as in 1952, and 32,500 more feet were drilled than the combined total of the previous four years, the agency said.

Construction of a second cotton mill in Peking to have 125,000 spindles and 3,400 looms will begin in March this year.—Router.

Another of America's three winning films was the do-nothing production "Martin Luther," which deals with the life of the Protestant religious leader.—France-Press.

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ITALIAN CABINET CRISIS: Leaders Seek Help Of Sick de Gasperi

Leaders Seek Help Of Sick de Gasperi

Rome, Jan. 3.

Italy's Christian Democrat leaders tonight gathered around the sick bed of the former Prime Minister, Signor Alcide de Gasperi, to seek a way out of a two-week-old Cabinet crisis.

The present Prime Minister, Signor Giuseppe Pella, whose action shortly before Christmas in demanding fuller support from the Christian Democrat Party started the crisis, was present.

Before the meeting, Signor Pella, himself a Christian Democrat, told reporters he hoped the current discussions would lead to a reshuffling of his Cabinet within a week.

He formed the Cabinet last August, after Signor de Gasperi and other leaders of the Party had failed to rally a Parliamentary majority.

He announced it as a stop gap "business Government." Its lack of political initiative, due to the close balance of forces in Parliament, had growing Communist gains in recent local elections led to open unrest in the Christian Democrat Party.

The Socially progressive left-wing of the Party, alarmed at the Government's dependence on right-wing Monarchist support, accused it of failing to plan to contain the Communist advance.

In a pre-Christmas statement, Signor Pella virtually accused Signor de Gasperi and other Party leaders of fomenting this unrest.

He invited them to find another Prime Minister or order the Party to support him loyally.

PELLA—ONLY CANDIDATE
Two weeks of discussions appeared tonight to have established Signor Pella as the only candidate.

They also appeared to have confirmed that his new Government will have to continue to rely on Monarchist Parliamentary support.

Meanwhile, the new Cabinet, dependent on the Monarchists, would be unable to push forward as fast as the Christian Democrat left-wing demands with the Party's main weapon for fighting Communism, and land reform.

Nor would it be able to attack on tax evasion, said by the left-wing Christian Democrats to amount to 200,000 million Lire (£120,000,000) a year—mainly in evasions by the rich.

They say this would be enough to launch an attack on Italy's biggest problem—a permanent pool of 2,000,000 unemployed plus some 4,000,000 underemployed.

Meanwhile, the Monarchist Party today repeated assurances of support for a new Pella Government and for public works programmes to alleviate unemployment, as well as a housing project for a million homeless families.

The reshuffle was expected to include nomination of a new Foreign Minister and changes in four other Ministries. Signor Alcide de Gasperi, who served as Vice Prime Minister in successive de Gasperi Cabinets, was thought the likely Foreign Minister.—Router.

Former Premier Mohammed Mossadegh, sentenced to three years in solitary confinement for treason, today named Colonel Jalil Bozorgmehr to defend him before the Military Court of Appeals.

No date has yet been set for the Court's review of the conviction of Mossadegh and his co-defendant, Brig-Gen. Rihai, Chief of Army General Staff under the former premier.

Rihai, who was sentenced to two years' imprisonment and expulsion from the Army, named Colonel Shah Gholl to head his defence.

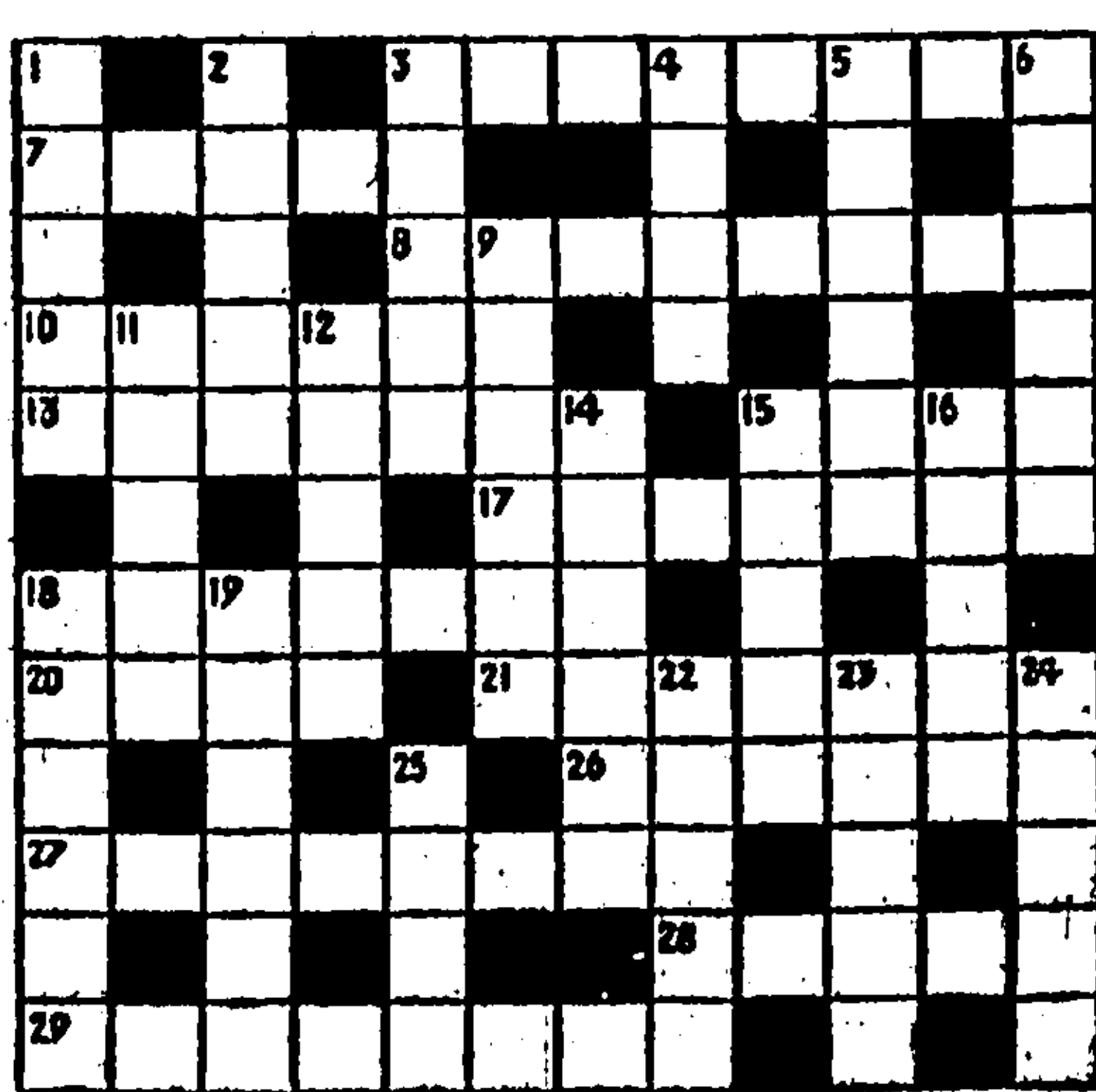
Bozorgmehr was appointed by the Court which convicted Mossadegh, to defend the former premier in the first trial, but was repudiated by him.

Two Iranian staff members left for London tonight by plane to reopen the Embassy there. Relations were resumed last month after being disrupted after Mossadegh broke with Britain over the Anglo-Iranian oil dispute.—United Press.

Tehran, Jan. 3.
A 12-year-old Iranian boy, Sasapour Ezzadi, whose information to the police led to the uncovering of a Tudeh (Communist) conspiracy, is to leave for the United States.

His mother will accompany him on his trip.—France-Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 3 Refined (8).
- 7 Keen (5).
- 8 Muster (8).
- 10 Flexible (8).
- 13 Earnest (7).
- 15 Measure of land (4).
- 17 Threatens (7).
- 18 Ease (7).
- 20 Patched (4).
- 21 Pithing error (7).
- 26 In abundance (6).
- 27 Amiable (8).
- 28 Barler (5).
- 29 Hikers (5).

DOWN

- 1 Retains (5).
- 2 Once more (5).
- 3 Bird (5).
- 4 Abound (4).
- 5 Strip of material (6).
- 6 Fears (6).
- 9 Try hard (6).
- 11 Ship (6).
- 12 Pungent (5).
- 14 Come out (6).
- 15 Royal (5).
- 16 Sent (5).
- 19 Sward (6).
- 20 Libe (6).
- 22 Grates (5).
- 23 Subject (5).
- 24 Jovial (5).
- 25 Cultivate (4).

SATURDAY'S CROSSWORD: Across—1 Locust, 3 Sene, 8 Oriol, 9 Vireo, 10 Cured, 11 Hacked, 12 Root, 13 Deals, 16 Mole, 18 Almond, 20 Golem, 22 Weep, 23 Usher, 25 Holst, 26 Nether, 27 Lends, 28 Sever, 29 Spades. Down—1 Laverie, 2 Corn-pod, 3 Hour, 4 Treason, 5 Secedes, 6 Milder, 7 Shell, 18 Attended, 19 Supports, 20 Monster, 21 Defends, 22 Tissue, 23 Above, 24 Raft.

CHINA'S 100 NEW OIL WELLS

London, Jan. 3.
The New China News Agency reported today that nearly 100 oil wells were drilled in northwest and southwest China by geological prospecting teams last year.

Twice as many teams and drills were operating in 1953 as in 1952, and 32,500 more feet were drilled than the combined total of the previous four years, the agency said.

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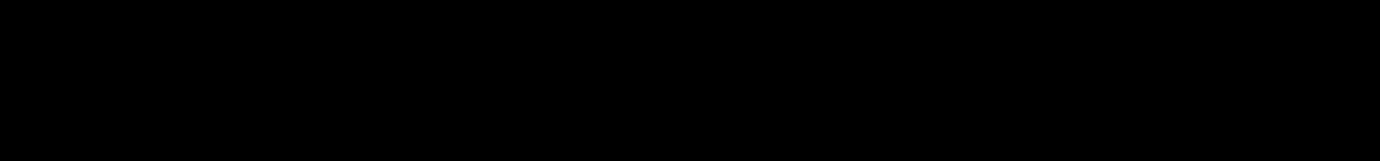
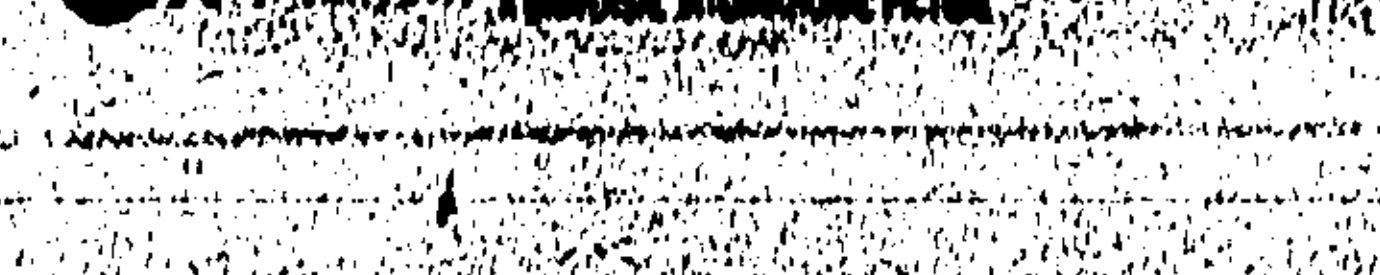
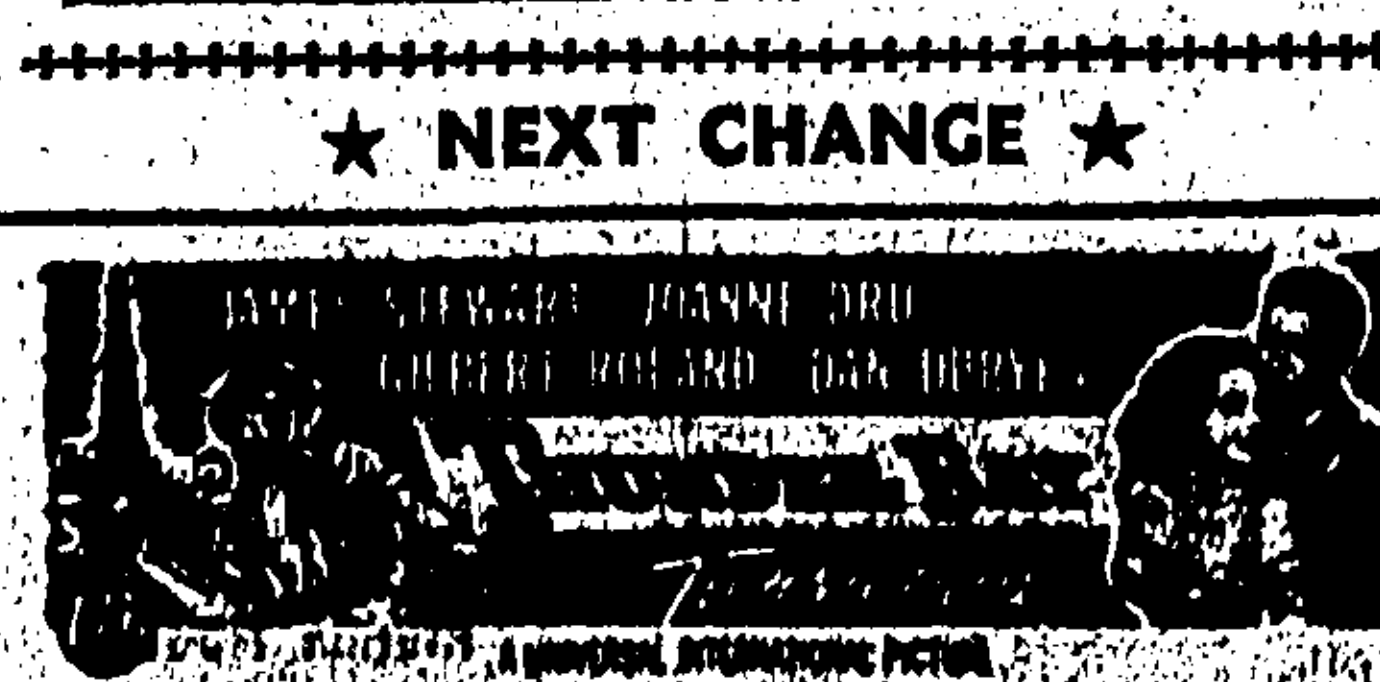
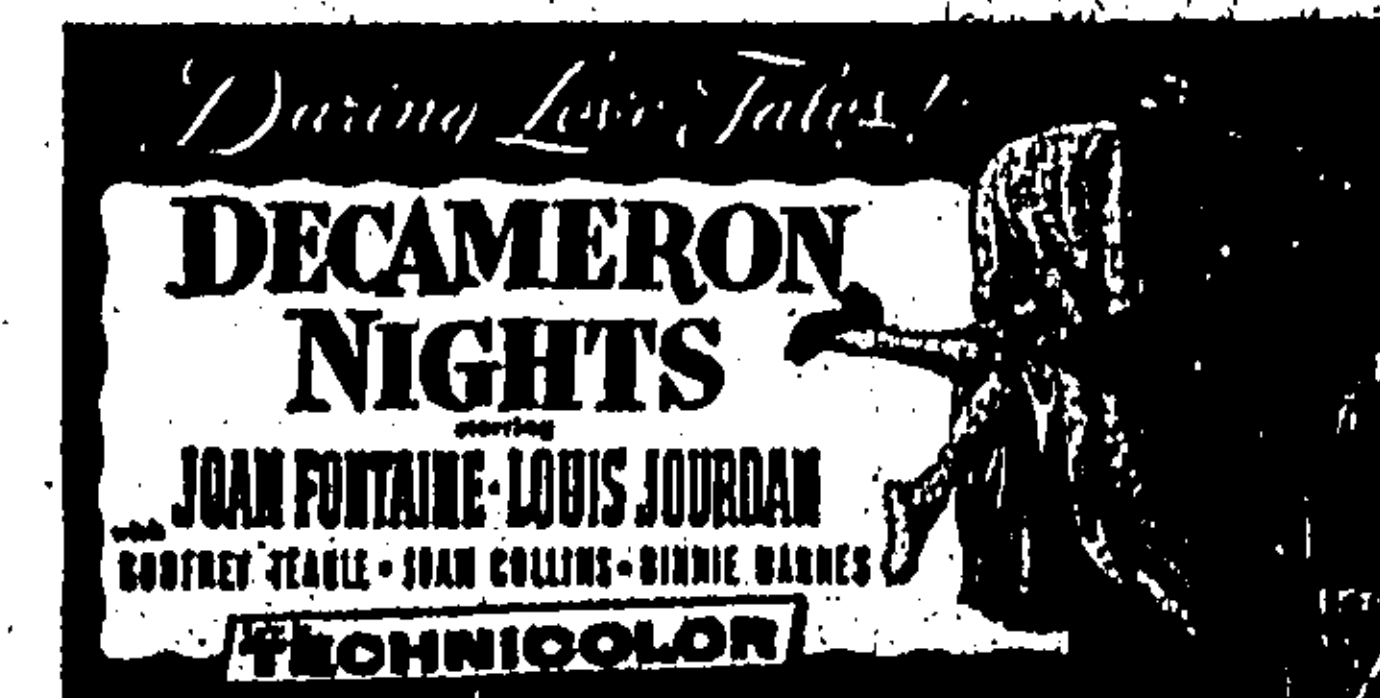
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PEKING ATTITUDE TO THE MINORITIES

By WALTER KOLARZ

THE Chinese Communist Government is greatly preoccupied with the problem of its national minorities. These constitute less than 10 per cent of the population, but they are scattered over a large, sparsely populated area, and live predominantly in border regions that are politically vital. China's minorities question has required a solution for a long time, and the Communist regime is determined to solve it.

Forty-seven different national autonomous regions have already been set up in various parts of the People's Republic. The most important are those allocated to the Tibetans, Thais and Mongols, but this is only a beginning, for the formation of more autonomous regions is planned, the number of which may finally exceed 100.

The process of forming autonomous minority territories is conducted by a special Government Commission for Nationalities Affairs, whose work is expected to reach a successful conclusion by the end of 1954.

There are two reasons why the Chinese People's Government attaches importance to the nationalities problem: first, it wants to strengthen its position by getting the minorities more firmly under control, particularly those in the southern border regions; and, second, the extension of national autonomy is expected to enhance China's prestige in Southeast Asia where the nationalities problem is also an important factor.

Local Nationalism

Information reaching the outside, however, shows that the totalitarian character of the Chinese regime has made a liberal minority policy as impossible as in the Soviet Union. No sooner had the Chinese Government started to grant national autonomy than it saw itself compelled to launch its first attacks against local nationalism.

Indeed, an official report recently issued by the Commission for Nationalities Affairs complained that certain minorities had viewed regional autonomy as synonymous with getting rid of Chinese control. In a number of newly-established regions there have even been riots and uprisings, which the Commission attributes to the activities of

"imperialist" and Chiang Kai-shek agents and counter-revolutionaries.

The Chinese Government does not claim that its autonomous regions in any way possess sovereign rights. In this respect its policy differs from that of the Soviet Communist Party.

Great Han-ism

The total replacement of Chinese officials by so-called "national cadres" is not even a theoretical aim of the Chinese Communist Party. Many of these officials have shown little understanding of the point of view of the minorities, and the Commission for Nationalities Affairs has been forced to charge them with "Great Chinese nationalism." The official term is "Great Han-ism" or "Great Han nationalism," the word Han being used to differentiate between the Chinese race in the narrow sense and the minorities living in the People's Republic.

This "Great Han-ism" has taken a variety of forms. For instance, minorities have been forced to speak the Chinese language, to dress in Chinese attire and to abandon local national dances. Chinese officials in certain minority regions have, as an editorial in the People's Daily, the official organ of the Chinese Communist Party, recently put it, "grabbed all the work", so that officials from the minorities were left without any real authority.

Chinese officials are to remain in the minority terri-

tories, but they must now share some of their powers with locally recruited personnel, although in many cases this is not yet possible because of the shortage of reliable local Communists. These are now being trained at a special Nationalities Institute in Peking, where they are instructed in the principles of Marxism-Leninism, the history of the Chinese Communist Party and the works of Mao Tse-tung.

The Chinese Communist Government seems to have satisfied some of the economic and cultural grievances of the minor nationalities, but what it has given with one hand it has often taken away with the other. For instance, it confiscated in large numbers the cattle of nomadic minority groups such as the Khazaks, Mongols and Tibetans, transferring them to livestock-breeding stations owned by the State. This imposed considerable hardship on their previous owners and caused widespread dissatisfaction.

Disturbances

The nomad minorities have frequently been forced to assume a sedentary life, but this policy has now been abandoned because of the serious disturbances it provoked, particularly in Sinkiang, China's Far West.

The Chinese Communist Party has pledged itself to "correct" mistakes made in handling the minorities issue. But such "correction" can hardly be successful so long as the Chinese policy towards the minority groups is modelled on that of the Soviet Union, which in the past has shrunk neither from mass deportations nor even from outright genocide.

President McCarthy, seizing power by a technicality, appoints Kerensky and Chiang Kai-Shek Emperors of Russia and China respectively and in future will do business only through them.



OLD LOW'S ALMANACK

PROPHECIES FOR 1954

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WAS IKE'S ALL-OUT EFFORT A FLOP?

By Ian Colvin

FOREIGN EDITOR OF THE SUNDAY EXPRESS (LONDON)

I WAS at the Hotel Statler in Washington for the famous annual dinner that the Gridiron Dining Club gave to President Eisenhower. He had just made his monumental speech on atom control.

The Gridiron members trooped up in white ties. They are wealthy business men, politicians, top journalists. According to tradition, they ragged the Government party in speech after speech. A cabaret show guyed the Republicans.

Then came the President's turn to speak. Ike remained seated. He did not even respond to the toasts.

Scandalised Gridiron diners told me that this was the first time in 68 years that a President of the United States had declined to speak at their dinner in his honour.

Eisenhower, looking pensive and worn, was hardly the same man who had spoken with such pomp in the United Nations Assembly four days before. He had lapsed into what was compared with the public lives of Roosevelt and Truman, a monk-like silence.

UNWILLING

The emptiness of his White House Press conferences distresses his supporters. He seems unwilling to talk freely, unable to walk in the spotlight that follows an American President.

It was clearly to break that silence that Eisenhower made his dramatic appeal for sanity in the atomic age.

Only time will show whether that much drafted speech, discussed with Sir Winston Churchill at Bermuda, and ob-

viously inspired by the Churchill peace initiative of May 11, makes any imprint on history.

I heard Eisenhower make his UN speech. He spoke sincerely, majestically, yet I wonder now whether Sir Winston was right to call it "one of the most important events in world history since the end of the war."

Was that speech a flop? It was impossible to say so at

"I begin to wonder if Churchill's assessment will still seem right a year from now..."

once, even if there was a ring of unreality about it, as I say so now.

Of course it was an important speech, and it had a twofold purpose:

1. It was meant to reach Russia.

2. It was also meant to restore the personal ascendancy of Eisenhower at home.

Although the speech had its echoes in Moscow, from what I have seen in America, it has failed in its second objective.

There are several reasons why a solitary speech, even a speech of grandeur, could not do that.

One reason why is the eloquence of Adlai Stevenson, the last Democrat candidate for the presidency. I travelled to Philadelphia and heard Stevenson reaffirm his leadership of the Democrat Party.

At a £35 a plate banquet designed to raise funds for the Democrats Adlai subtly

played on the "four fears" that he said the Republicans had revived—fear of depression and Communism, fear of themselves and of freedom.

This speech was a success. The jubilant Stevenson, returning to New York, attended a party given by one of the most prominent hostesses, Mrs Ronald Tree. There his attitude confirmed impressions that he will run for President again in 1958.

Second reason is that Eisenhower has yet to make up his mind whether he or Senator Joseph C. McCarthy is the strong man of the Republican Party.

At the very outset of the Bermuda conference McCarthy was trying to dictate through public opinion what American policy should be towards allies who trade with Communist China.

TIRELESS

Both Mr Dulles and the President rebuked him for suggesting that American aid to Britain should be stopped.

But when I met the notorious senator in Washington a week later McCarthy was far from silenced. He was about to defend his case on a network of 400 television and broadcasting stations. "Under the American Constitution, it is quite right that I should go on declaring my convictions," said Senator Joe.

Joe McCarthy is a big, soft-spoken man with a dawning manner. He does not bluster, he rarely loses his temper. He is the most tireless, hardworking, and ambitious man in the Republican Party. Texan millionaires and a powerful social clique in Washington and Wisconsin are behind him.

That and his campaign to stamp out the Communist Fifth Column in American life make Washing-

ton observers see in him the next Vice-President of the United States.

Joe, burly, hairy, oily in manner, looks like a typical villain of melodrama. But he is no fool, and he deals quite easily with a panel of four American Press men and women. "One-worlders," who are thirsting to expose him.

In soft tones, giving me a mealy hand, Joe McCarthy told me he has many friends in Britain who back him on China.

ADVISERS

Thirdly there are Eisenhower's numerous advisers, headed by Foreign Secretary John Foster Dulles. He embarrasses his chief by over-emphasis. When Dulles foreshadowed an "agonising reappraisal" of American strategy in Europe, unless France gets together with West Germany, he was out of step with the President's global speech to the U.N.

It is not altogether surprising that people have taken to listening not for what the President may have to say but what his staff is saying.

Of course there are practical, alert men on his staff, but few of them are well suited to the White House role. His principal spokesman is James C. Hagerly, a newspaperman whose horizon is bounded by New York and the United Nations.

Another is Mr C. D. Jackson, Special Assistant in Cold War Strategy, once vice-president of Time Magazine. He is credited with drafting the President's speech of December 8. But there is serious doubt whether cold war, and consequently Mr Jackson, is not out of date today.

An important adviser, but not on politics, is Mr Allen Dulles, whom I met at his Central Intelligence Agency.

Allen Dulles has a calm and balanced mind. I wish he had become Foreign Secretary of America instead of his acidic brother.

PROSPECT

There is Vice-President Richard M. Nixon, just back from a fact-finding tour of the Far East. He is a coming man, but I do not believe that Nixon can hold his own against McCarthy. Nor can the mere business magnates in Eisenhower's Cabinet.

Ike is a man used to wielding big army groups in wartime and taking a few big decisions. At the White House he has been in a job where the people expect him to make dozens of decisions, small and not so small, every day.

He is reluctant to conform. Men close to him tell me that the President has an uninvolved admiration for the British monarchic system. He is holding back from politics, as Britain's head of State does. This will not do at all with Senator Joseph C. McCarthy of Wisconsin.

Eleven and a half months ago Eisenhower became President. If he wishes to survive as leader of the American people, he must soon descend into the ring of politics and fight McCarthy.

That is the unpleasant prospect ahead of him in 1954.



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New York. Sportsmen! "No other nation has created so many sports as the English," says the new U.S. Encyclopedia of Sports, just out.

"It is difficult to find any sports, except some of very ancient or recent times, that were not devised or developed by the British people."

Then the encyclopedia lists 31 sports of British origin. Two British cricket enthusiasts, Henry Chadwick and Harry Wright, "were the greatest factors in the early development of U.S. baseball."

Chadwick (died 1908) is known as the "Father of Baseball" because he was the original scorer for the game.

He said it descended from rounders.

ON THE MONEY SIDE, the encyclopedia lists £14 a week as the highest pay in Britain's Soccer rewards; in cricket, £10; in speedway racing, £21; all not counting bonuses.

In America the Class A1 club baseball man can command 7,000 dollars (£2,500) a month.

A LONDON TAXI-CAB is pictured in the New York Times with the information that it is 178ins. long.

New York City Council is trying to decide whether to insist on smaller cabs. Present "jumbos" are 224ins. long.

CHURCHILL'S department store has installed a free massage

machine for the aching backs and feet of shoppers.

WORKING WIDOWS with children are to be allowed to deduct payments to baby-minders in their income tax returns.

A BANDIT terrorizing Brooklyn toy shops begins by asking for toys for his four-year-old boy, or his three-year-old girl.

Then he flashes a gun on the startled shopkeeper.

He has robbed four shops of 3,490 dollars (£1,240).

SONGWRITER Harry Revel ("Did you ever see a dream walking?") and three guests had to sit in his flat with pillows over their heads while three gunmen finished off his bottle of Scotch.

They got in by pretending to deliver a Christmas parcel.

PEGASUS 0, HONGKONG SELECTION 1

THE VISITORS' PLAY WAS PURPOSELESS AND DEVOID OF METHOD

Says I. M. MacTAVISH

Before the start of this second game of the Hongkong series against Pegasus the players of both sides were presented to His Excellency The Governor. There the regal occasion started and finished for, truth to tell, this was a game that would have raised more yawns than cheers had it been played 'over on the Valley'.

For the paucity of the play Pegasus must accept a high proportion of the responsibility. They were, on this occasion, a poor side and Dr Thompson and coach Leslie Compton must be gravely disappointed by the efforts of the men they have brought 10,000 miles to uphold the prestige of English amateur football.

If I did not know Pegasus and had not seen these same players in action before, I would put them down as the most over-ballyhooed team of all time. I am at a loss to account for their displays. I can understand that they might be temporarily upset by a long air trip in the middle of a strenuous home season, but I can find nothing to account for their utter lack of determination or for their refusal to set their teeth and fight back when things are not running as they would like. Their play was purposeless and devoid of method.

Nothing, however, must be allowed to minimise the efforts

of the local boys. The terms of reference have a football match are 'Go out there and win' and on Saturday our chosen representatives did just that and we must give them credit for their success.

After the first game it was felt that Pegasus might have been at a disadvantage because of the hard ground, so before this second game the local officials very sportingly had the turf liberally watered... but the visitors were still beaten by the pace of the ball off the ground.

POOR STUFF

The first half of the game was poor stuff. There was little to raise a cheer and when the interval arrived it was almost a welcome relief from soccer boredom.

The only definite facts that could be found were firstly, that this revised Pegasus line-up was not an improvement on that almost run into the ground by our top team on Friday, and secondly, that, in spite of some last minute selection difficulties, our team was good enough for the job in hand.

Play in the second half was much more interesting, but this was due more to increased endeavour than to any overall improvement in the standard of play.

Pegasus had a couple of chances to win the game, but a Platt header that went over the bar and an Alexander header that flew past the post were the nearest they got to scoring. Although in several late minutes in the goal area they were unlucky to see good tries blocked by the legs and bodies of desperate defenders.

Once MacLaren, who had an otherwise excellent game, allowed a cross shot to elude his grasp and it just scraped the edge of the goal and went behind for a corner kick.

Ho Cheung-yau had the honour of winning the game when a few minutes before the end he drove a fine shot into the net wide of a badly positioned Brown's left hand.

In the Hongkong line-up MacLaren, Chan Kar-sau, Lau Yee, Tang Sum, Frazier — a good captain — and Ho Cheung-yau took the honours. Pegasus got their best service from Robinson, Shearwood, Vowels, Potts and Blythe. Alexander tried very hard to put some life into the forward line but he was blanketed by the close covering of Frazier. Brown was often strangely uncertain in goal.

VERDICT: Unless Pegasus can now make a spectacular break into form in the third game against Combined Chinese their visit will go down as a sad anti-climax for there exists here a dangerous school of thought that any team that fails to win in Hongkong must be sub-standard. This is a great injustice to our selected players who have risen to the occasion and have played the visitors right off their normal game but it seems that winning is not enough. Nobody is more disappointed with their poor displays than the Pegasus players who KNOW they are capable of better things.

THE MACTAVISH STAR RATINGS

PEGASUS	HONGKONG
BROWN	*****
JOYNT	*****
ROBINSON	*****
WOODLEY	*****
SHEARWOOD	*****
VOWELS	*****
POTTS	*****
PLATT	*****
ALEXANDER	*****
BLYTHE	*****
LUNN	*****

SCOTTISH "A"	HONGKONG
McLAREN	*****
CHAN KAR-SAU	*****
LAI YEE	*****
TANG SUM	*****
FRAZIER	*****
FALCONER	*****
SZETO YUI	*****
HO CHEUNG-YAU	*****
AU CHI-YIN	*****
CHOW	*****
SZETO MAN	*****

SCOTTISH "B"	HONGKONG
McLAREN	*****
CHAN KAR-SAU	*****
LAI YEE	*****
TANG SUM	*****
FRAZIER	*****
FALCONER	*****
SZETO YUI	*****
HO CHEUNG-YAU	*****
AU CHI-YIN	*****
CHOW	*****
SZETO MAN	*****

post and cross bar with Tam Nai-huen will be beaten.

The Champions have the great assets of craft in the inside positions and speed on the wings and in this game it was the prompting and forcing of Yui Cheuk-yin and Lee Yui-tak that really set them on the road to victory. The instant right got the opening goal of the game in the 6th minute when he went through the RAF defence and beat MacLaren all ends up.

At this stage the Airmen were giving as much as they were getting but, although they had several possible chances to get on equal terms, the next goal came at this other end when Chai Wing-wah resisted a strong challenge and, with MacLaren almost on top of him, managed to glide the ball into the net. This goal came in the 16th minute and put the South China boys in a very comfortable position.

FINAL BLOW

Immediately after the interval the Champions struck the final blow when Yui Cheuk-yin finished off a delightful bout of inter-passing by slamming the ball into the back of the net. This finished the scoring although both teams had more chances to get goals.

By now both teams had lost heart and luck with a powerful grounder that narrowly missed the far post and went behind, but it was rank bad play, far more than bad luck, that saw Yui Cheuk-yin scoop the ball over the bar from two yards after it had been passed.

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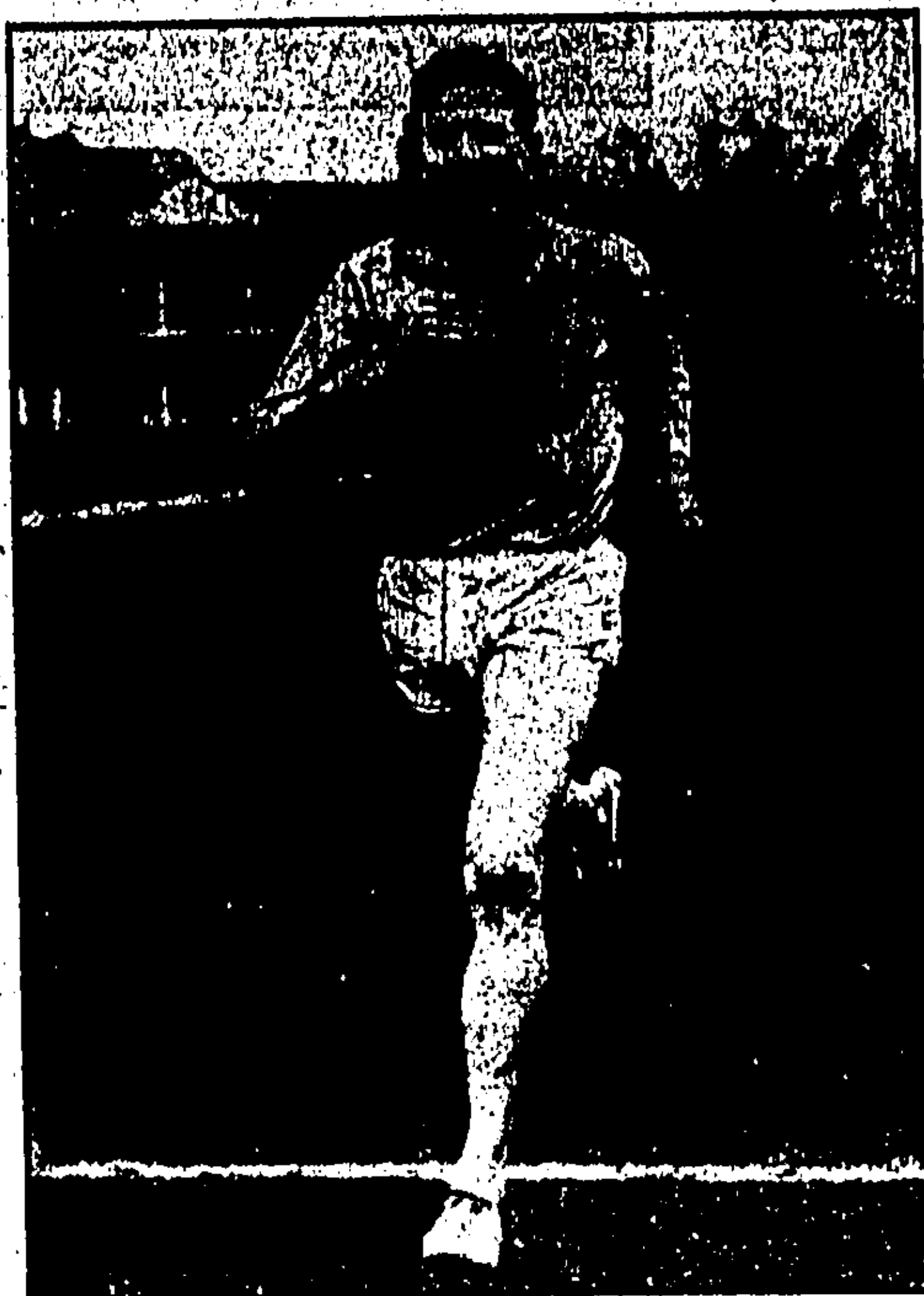
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BID THAT FAILED



Don Macmillan, the Australian Olympic Miller, ran a special mile race at Mottspur Park on December 19 with the intention of setting up a time good enough to qualify for inclusion in the Australian team for the Empire Games in Vancouver. He returned a time of 4 min. 15.4 sec.—several seconds too slow.—Central Press Photo.

French Tennis Expert Ranks Tony Trabert As World's No. 1

Paris, Jan. 3.

Jacques Kauffman, French tennis specialist, today ranked Tony Trabert of the United States as the No. 1 world tennis player.

In his yearly placing of tennis players, Kauffman said Trabert deserved the first place in spite of his defeat in the Davis Cup Challenge Round by Lewis Hoad of Australia.

Second was Lewis Hoad and third Ken Rosewall of Australia. Fourth was Vic Seixas of the U.S. fifth was Jaroslav Drobny of Egypt. Sixth was Kurt Nielsen of Denmark. seventh Arthur Larsen of the U.S. eighth Rex Hartwig of Australia. Ninth was the French, Wimbledon and American titles.

Miss Hart was a finalist in the French, American and Wimbledon tournaments. — United Press.

Kauffman said Miss Connolly's ranking was well proved by her winning the Australian, French, Wimbledon and American titles.

Miss Hart was a finalist in the French, American and Wimbledon tournaments. — United Press.

Hashim Khan Beaten By American

New York, Jan. 3.

Hashim Khan of Pakistan, the holder of the British Open Squash Rackets title, was unexpectedly beaten by Henri Salaun of Boston in the final of the United States Open Championships here today.

Salaun, who is an amateur player, won 15-7, 15-2 and 15-11.

The New York tournament was Hashim's first experience of playing American squash rackets which calls for a narrower court, smaller ball and heavier racket than used in the British game.

Salaun took the initiative from the start and in the first game he won eight straight points before Hashim could counter effectively.

The American played an intelligent game, abandoning the powerful shots he used in the earlier rounds. Thus conserving his energy, he appeared to throw Hashim off balance.

Salaun, who is a leading amateur lawn tennis player and was a star in University soccer, said that these two sports helped him considerably in his foot work and volleying. — Reuter.

THE GAMBOLS

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BUT IT'S MUCH FURTHER THAT WAY

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FIERCE COMPETITION IN THE LADIES' LOOP

By "SNOOPER"

There is already fierce competition in the Ladies' softball loop, for when the two games of the week-end were completed yesterday, three teams were left struggling for supremacy for the Pennant—Terry Noronha's Owls, Pearl Chan's Pandas and Bunny Remedios' Colleens.

Confidence and batting power have returned with some of the old skill to the Owls and the Colleens and their enterprising and resourceful displays proved the downfall of both South China and Wahooks "B" respectively at King's Park yesterday.

The Colleens' latest victory, at the expense of Virgilio Ribeiro's up-and-coming Wahooks "B", was by a splendid margin of 23-5 and was principally due to the pitching of Sheila Bernal-Silva and the batting prowess of the Colleens' heavy sluggers—Dolly Norman, Pamela Hall, Benita Remedios and Sally Sun. The Colleens obtained eight runs in the fourth inning and another 11 runs in the remaining three frames.

This return clash between the red-shirted Colleens and the Wahooks "B", in fact, was remarkable for the fact that no fewer than 32 fielding errors were committed by the inexperienced Wahooks who developed a jittery after the third canto.

There was some bright softball in the first three innings when the underdog Wahooks held their opponents to a 4-all tie, but more surprising was the fact that no fewer than 17 errors came after this superb display by Virgilio Ribeiro and her colleagues. The Colleens seized upon the Wahooks' lapses and scored as they pleased.

Coach Eddie Marques of the Colleens, with the air of a university professor, is, as one imagines, one of softball's deepest thinkers. He has brought to his job an academic interest in the art of coaching tactics, and in the face of the razzing of the spectators and the Wahooks' fans, he remained nonchalant and guided the Colleens to a well-deserved victory.

To achieve a first-class performance when the Colleens were down 3-4 at the close of the second frame, coach Marques had to "stick out his neck" and had pitcher Dolly Norman replaced by Sheila Bernal-Silva.

To play Sheila Bernal-Silva on the mound in this crucial contest was, to say the least, venturesome as she was obviously out of practice. But the Marques magic was proved again, and Sheila not only pitched a grand game but was also one of the prominent batters of the day.

POOR SPORTSMANSHIP

On reflection, it would have been an injustice had the Colleens lost their game yesterday. They tried all the time to play speedy, constructive and spirited softball, but after having established an overwhelming 17-4 lead their sportsmanship left much to be desired. Their attempt to humiliate the youthful Wahooks' batters, mostly schoolgirls, by "footling" around between bases instead of coming home impressed me considerably, and I would like to see the Colleens behave in like manner against Terry Noronha's champion Wahooks "A" in the return encounter. The Colleens need Pearl Chan's Pandas next week-end.

There can be no denying that the Colleens' all-round steadiness and batting prowess gave them the victory. Bunny Remedios, Sheila Silva, and Pamela Hall, who was slightly injured in the fourth when she made an effort to slide at home plate, played the game of their lives and were magnificently cool throughout.

For the losers, one player stood out and was in a class by herself. She was pitcher Evelyn Alonzo who showed considerable restraint and intelligence in the way she attempted to face out the Colleens' sluggers. Only some horrible fielding on the part of the Wahooks brought their team to a crushing defeat.

Although allowances must be made for the gallant performance of the Wahooks "B" yesterday, the real reason for the ignominious reversal was the shockingly poor throw by the outfielders who found great difficulty in handling flies and grounders.

Even in the second half of the contest, of which the Wahooks had about a quarter share of the play, there was much fiddling and diffidence in the outfield and this, coupled with the general lack of confidence in the infield, shattered all hopes of a Wahooks recovery.

Virgilio Ribeiro and her teammates have been, as mentioned, as everyone of the Colleens as they walked off the diamond with the knowledge that they had lost their best chance of figuring in the playoff series. But all praise must be given to the schoolgirls for trying to play good softball from the very start. With more experience, the Wahooks "B" should go very far next season.

The teams: Colleens: — Pitcher — Dolly Norman; Catcher — Alda Oliveira; 1st base — Bunny Remedios; 2nd base — Sheila Bernal-Silva; 3rd base — Sally Sun; Shortstop — Antonia Remedios; Left-fielder — Diana Pires; Centre-fielder — Pamela Hall; Right-fielder — Ellen Cosca, Cynthia Tavares.

Wahooks "B": — Pitcher — Evelyn Alonzo; Catcher — Angelina Delgado; 1st base — Valerie Fernandez; 2nd base — Virgilio Ribeiro; 3rd base — Myra Cruz; Shortstop — Yolande Silva; Left-fielder — Marie Cecilia Basto; Helen Azevedo; Centre-fielder — Angelina D'Aquino; Theresia Roza — Pires; Right-fielder — Marie Barros.

DASHING LEADER

Terry Noronha, who played the part of a dashing leader yesterday's Wahooks "A" 11-3 victory over South China, turned in a superb pitching performance by fanning out eight batters from the Caroline Hill camp.

With the excellent support of infielders like Doreen Oozorio, Gwen Dragon, Stella Correa and Irene Starkey, who tackled grounders with bite and determination, the Wahooks coasted to an easy win to consolidate their position in the Ladies' circuit.

Outfielders Alex Mendonca, Chuchil Campos and Sheila Colloco moved with speed and spirit and looked unbeatable. One thing could be said of the Carolines. Their batters adapted themselves to the pitching conditions and came through with flying colours. They only hit the Wahooks by 9-7 in the course of the seven-inning play but failed to turn those hits to good account.

A high standard of softball was seen in the first three innings when the Carolines took the 1-0 lead at the close of the first stanza and held their highly-favoured opponents scoreless for two innings.

The Wahooks came to life in the third to level the score and then the inevitable happened. Terry Noronha and her colleagues took advantage of South China's over-eagerness and the Wahooks' stylists scored 10 runs in the next three innings to put the ball game on ice.

Doreen Oozorio, at first base, showed up better at bat and was the star performer with two hits while singles were scored by Stella Correa, Alex Mendonca, Maria Carvalho, Chuchil Campos and Sheila Colloco. For South China, E. Chan and M. Lam shared batting honours with two hits apiece. Others in the batting lineup were Y. C. Kwan, Madeline Gosling and Effie Bobila.

Portugal, holders of the Ladies' International championship, raised their hopes of a second successive win by trouncing China by 12-1 in the first of a three-game series played on New Year's Day.

Many contended that China's tactics of hitting were wrong under the conditions, but it is my opinion that the manager and coach erred in the final selection of the Chinese representative team.

The Portuguese softballers never hit as much as much on the ineffective batting of the Chinese girls. It was only shortstop Amy Cheng of the Pandas who was able to score a hit and a run for China and none of China's fans seemed satisfied with the sort of display put up by the Chinese girls.

With May Wu of the Pandas pitching, who was expected to put on a giant-killing job, most experts refrained from giving an optimistic forecast for a

Portugal runaway win before the contest. But the pathetic softball furnished by the Chinese All-Stars was a crippling blow to the most ardent Chinese fans. Even if May Wu had been at her best—it was clear she played well when she permitted the Portuguese girls to score only five hits—I doubt very much that China could have changed the result. I had the feeling that China, with the kind of line-up on New Year's Day, gave Portugal a moral lead before the game began.

The Chinese girls looked only proficient in the initial inning, but hopes of making a match of it were shattered by Portugal in the second frame. The champion Portuguese softballers were never flustered by pitcher Wu's fast balls and made every hit count on this first-round clash. The Chinese resistance quickly crumbled.

Top hitting honour of the day went to Yolande Silva of the Wahooks who scored two excellent hits. The other feature of the game was the home run of Alda Oliveira of the Colleens in the third canto.

The return encounter will be played over the Chinese New Year holidays.

The teams: Portugal: — Pitcher — Terry Noronha (Wahooks); Catcher — Nani Carvalho (Wahooks); 1st base — Alda Oliveira (Colleens); 2nd base — Bernardino Remedios (Wahooks); 3rd base — Benita Remedios (Colleens); Shortstop — Irene Starkey (Wahooks); Left-fielder — Alex Mendonca (Wahooks); Centre-fielder — Antonia Remedios (Colleens); Right-fielder — Yolande Silva (Wahooks).

China: — Pitcher — May Wu (Pandas); Catcher — Eugenia Kwok (Pandas); 1st base — Sally Colloco (Colleens); 2nd base — C. Kwan (South China); 3rd base — Bonnie Chan (Pandas); Shortstop — Amy Cheng (Pandas); Left-fielder — Fong Sil (CAA); Centre-fielder — Stella Pih (Pandas); Right-fielder — T. Y. Chan (CAA).

In the exhibition game which followed the Ladies' International Series, the U.S. Navy, represented by the USS Cockrell, walloped Bill Silva's Senior "B" All-Stars 13-4. The feature of the game was the brilliant pitching display of Lewis of the Cockrell.

Losing pitcher Tony Rey gave a good account of himself and went the full distance for the All-Stars.

The Cockrell ballplayers made this their farewell performance at King's Park and truly deserved to win. The might USS Orea softballers, who replace the Cockrell, are due to arrive on January 8 and will have a welcome return appearance at King's Park on Sunday against the champion Braves.

The return clash between the Orea and the Braves will be played over seven innings while the "protest" game will be played on the seventh-inning on Sunday, Jan. 17.

Henricks Sorry Cheung Kin-man Is Not Competing

Manda, Jan. 3.

Jon Henricks, 17-year-old Australian wonder swimmer, is extremely sorry that he will not be able to have Hongkong's ace, Cheung Kin-man, in the next lane when the Philippines National Open Swimming Championships take place next week.

Henricks, a firm favourite with Hongkong crowds since his appearance there not so long ago, had great praise for Cheung. "A great swimmer," he said. "But Henricks, just oozing confidence, was quite certain that Cheung would not have a chance if he had entered for the Philippine Championships. Lack of suitable pools in Hongkong, he explained, was hamstringing Cheung's progress in the world of swimming."

—France-Press.

World Championship Chess Match Starts In March

Paris, Jan. 3.

The World Chess Championship match between M. Botvinnik and V. Smyslov will open in Moscow on March 10, and the 24-game match is expected to last until May 11. Radio Moscow announced tonight.

The chess title match was organized by the Soviet Chess Federation on instructions from the International Chess Federation. Moscow Radio said.

—France-Press.

BUTTERFIELD and SWIRE

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"HUPEH"	Tientsin	10 a.m. 7th Jan.
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"FUNGING"	Kobe	8th Jan.

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Scheduled Sailings to Europe via Aden & Port Said

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"PERSEUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Jan. 6th Jan.
"ANCHISES"	Liverpool & Glasgow	13th Jan. 14th Jan.
"CLYTONAUS"	Liverpool & Dublin	22nd Jan. 23rd Jan.
"ASTYANAX"	Glasgow, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, London & Hamburg	24th Jan. 25th Jan.
"TYRRHUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Feb. 6th Feb.

Scheduled Sailings from Europe

	Sails	Arrives
S. "ASTYANAX"	Sailed 8th Jan. 1954	8th Jan. 1954
G. "TYRRHUS"	Sailed 13th Jan. 1954	13th Jan. 1954
S. "EUMAEUS"	do 25th Jan. 1954	25th Jan. 1954
G. "ASCANIUS"	do 28th Jan. 1954	28th Jan. 1954
S. "AGAPENOR"	3rd Jan. 13th Jan. 1954	7th Feb. 1954
G. "TELEPHOS"	7th Jan. 13th Jan. 1954	13th Feb. 1954
S. "AUTOMEDON"	10th Jan. 22nd Feb. 1954	22nd Feb. 1954
G. "ATREUS"	24th Jan. 26th Feb. 1954	26th Feb. 1954

G. Loading Glasgow, before Liverpool. S. Loading Swansea, before Liverpool. Carriers' option to proceed via other ports to load & discharge cargo.

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"DONA AURORA"	Sailed 19th Jan.	Sailed 25th Jan.	25th Jan.
"DONA ALICIA"	do 12th Jan.	do 18th Jan.	18th Jan.
"BATAAN"	do 12th Jan.	do 18th Jan.	18th Jan.
"MUNCASTER CASTLE"	15th Jan. 6th Feb.	15th Jan. 7th Mar.	7th Mar.
"TELEMACHUS"	25th Jan. 16th Feb.	25th Jan. 18th Mar.	18th Mar.

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	Loads	Sails
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"HAINAN"	19th Jan. 20th Jan.	20th Jan.
"DONA AURORA"	17th Feb. 18th Feb.	18th Feb.

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HK/Hanoi/Haiphong (DC-4)	00.00 a.m. Wednesday
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Hongkong, 30th December, 1953.

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Special Announcements and Classified Advertisements as usual.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

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No fire insurance will be effected.

DODWELL & CO., LTD. Agents.

Hongkong, 30th December, 1953.

242 Killed On

U.S. Roads

Over New Year

Chicago, Jan. 3.

The United States nearer the end of the long New Year holiday with a "good chance" to hold traffic deaths down to the level of a normal non-holiday weekend.

A United Press survey showed that 242 persons had been killed in traffic accidents since the start of the holiday last Thursday evening. There also were 80 deaths in fires, 13 in plane crashes and 58 in miscellaneous accidents for an overall total of 348.

New Dearborn, National Safety Council president, said, "Unless there is a surge of deaths from the last-minute trips home, it looks as if the toll may be below the Council's estimate of 800."—United Press.

Russia's Bid

For Trade

With Israel

Tel-Aviv, Jan. 3.

The Soviet Minister to Israel, Mr. Alexander Abramov, said here tonight that Russia was prepared to do bigger business with Israel on a barter basis.

Speaking at a reception to celebrate the arrival of the first Soviet tanker, carrying crude oil, Mr. Abramov said the Soviet Union was prepared to sign further barter agreements for more Soviet deliveries to Israel.

The director of the Israel Fuel Company, Mr. Samuel Goren, announced that the two countries would sign a new barter agreement next week.—France-Press.

"Miss Cornflower Of Champagne"

Won The Title

Paris, Jan. 3.

A 33-year-old girl secretary in a government administration who entered for the Pearl of the French Household 1954 competition under the pseudonym Miss Cornflower of Champagne, was today elected winner and officially crowned in Paris.

The winner of this competition undertakes not to act for stage or screen and to devote herself to her husband and any future children.

The competition is sponsored annually by the National Grenobler Club, a friendly association which endeavours to facilitate honest marriages.—France-Press.

Appeal To Rid

Ceylon

Of TB Sufferers

Colombo Jan. 3.

The Ceylon Health Department stated here that the island has nearly 50,000 tuberculosis sufferers of whom 6,000 are under actual treatment in hospitals and sanatoria.

Mr. E. A. Nugawela, Health Minister, opening a TB appeal, said that steps will be made to treat 7,500 patients every year in the hope that in seven years "the scourge will almost have disappeared."—Reuter.

NOTICE

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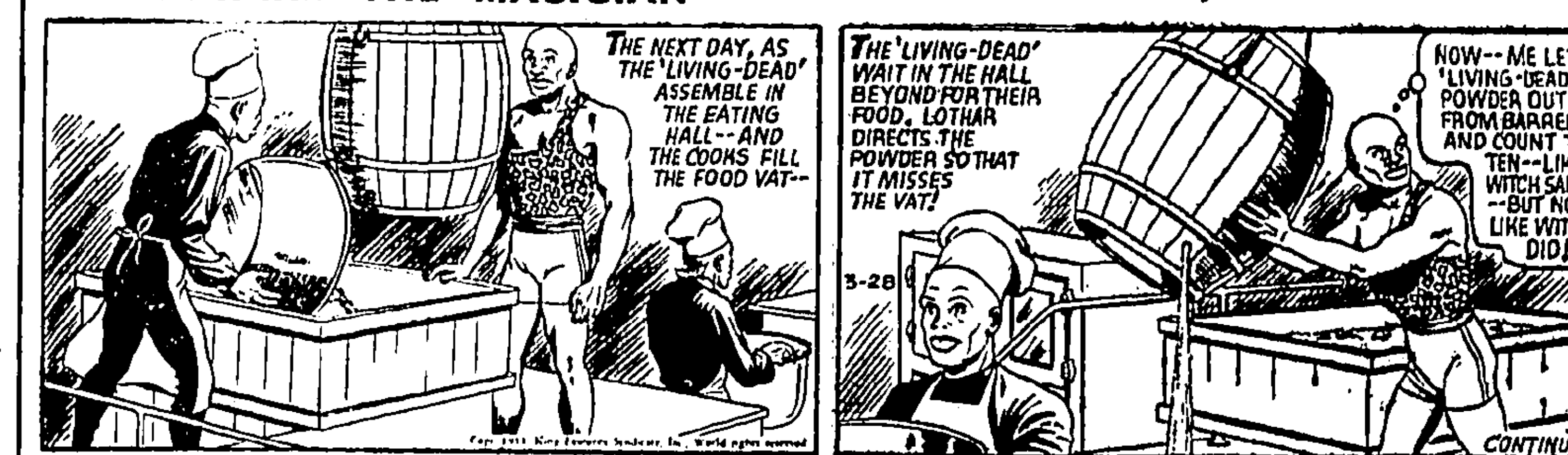
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Via Manila, Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Djibouti, and Port Said

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

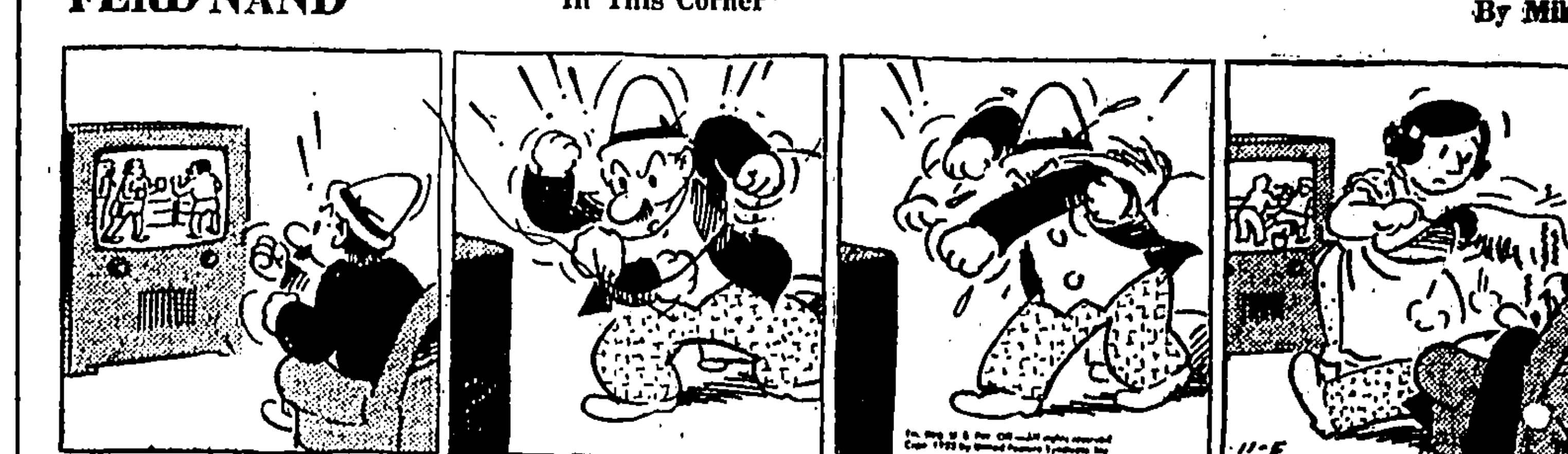
By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



FERD'NAND

"In This Corner"

By Milk



NANCY

She's So Right

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



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"CHUSAN"	10th December	10th January
"CANTON"	10th January	12th February
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Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore

Homewards

Leaves Hongkong One London

10th January 10th February

"CHUSAN" 1st February 1st March

"CANTON" 10th February 10th March

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Outwards

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sails 13th Jan. for Singapore, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Kuwait, Khawarismahr & Basrah direct. Also other P. & O. Gulf ports via Bombay

"OBRA" sails 10th Jan. from Karachi, Colombo & Straits

sails 17th Jan. for Japan

"UMARIA" sails 22nd Jan. from Japan

sails 23rd Jan. for Singapore, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Kuwait, Khawarismahr & Basrah direct. Also P. & O. Gulf ports via Bombay

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Arrives Jan. 16 from Singapore.

Sails Jan. 17 for Pusan, Kobe & Yokohama.

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Sails Jan. 22 for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Khawarismahr, Basrah & Bahrain.

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Fourth Year Of

Soviet

Five-Year Plan

Paris, Jan. 3.

Moscow Radio announced the fourth year of the fifth Soviet Five-Year Plan had begun as from today.

January 3, Sunday, has been decreed the first working day of 1954 in the Soviet Union by the Council of Ministers.

The Radio said that the new year would see "considerable increases in housing construction and in the mechanization of working processes."—France-Press.

Funeral Of Boy

Killed

By Soviet Guards

Berlin, Jan. 3.

Some 2,000 Berliners assembled in Spandau Cemetery today to attend funeral of a 16-year-old Berliner, Joachim Wozniak, who was shot and killed by Soviet soldiers the day after Christmas.

Red Army soldiers for no apparent reason fired several shots at the small Volkshagen cemetery in which the father of the slain boy, Adolf Wozniak, was returning with his family from a trip to West Germany. The mother of the boy, Mrs. Wozniak, a widow, was shot in the shooting.

The Soviet representative in Berlin, Sergei Dzhigal, is known to a Western news of press. He promised to investigate the incident.

DAIRY BOX MILK CHOCOLATES

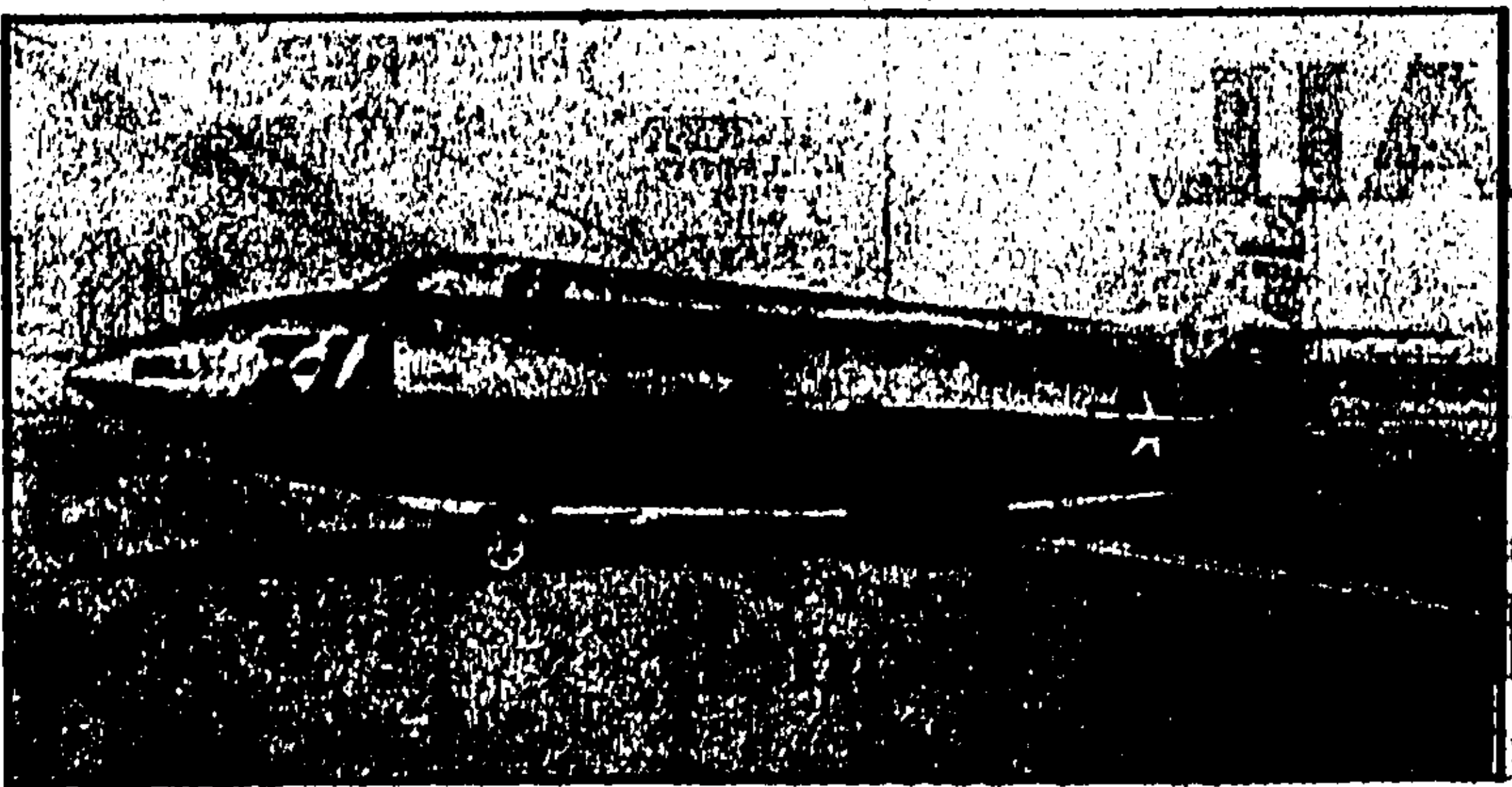
Dine At the

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...this situation calls for a

San Miguel



The Bell X-1, built by the Bell Aircraft Corporation, Buffalo, N.Y., for the U.S. Air Force, and which, piloted by Major Charles E. Yeager, flew at 1,600 miles an hour, thus claiming the unofficial speed record. Yeager made the world's first supersonic flight in the Bell X-1 six years ago.—Central Press Photo.

THE WAR IN INDO-CHINA

The Red River Delta Is The Key To South-East Asia

Singapore, Jan. 3.

British students of the Indo-Chinese war believe the Viet-minh invasion of Laos is in effect a compliment to the skill of the French commander, General Henri Navarre, and his tenacious defence of the Red River delta in northern Vietnam.

The delta, which is under strong French control, is regarded as the key to South-east Asia.

If the delta falls, observers here say, there is no other place in Indo-China where France can make a stand against the Viet-minh, and she and her allies, the Associated States of Indo-China, would have to negotiate a settlement with the Communist-led Viet-minh forces on very unfavourable terms.

Such a withdrawal would place Thailand in a very precarious position, and would provide encouragement for Communist movements in Malaya and Indonesia, and possibly open a high way into the heart of the Malay-Indonesian region.

one of the world's richest natural resources storehouses. At Phoenix Park, Singapore, headquarters of the Commission General, Mr. Malcolm McDonald, and his military staff, experts are closely following the developments in Laos,

but they say that they do not think a spectacular invasion is a real danger. "Watch the delta," they advise. "That is where the big battle will have to be."

DIVERSIONARY THRUST
Some opinions here hold the fact that the Viet-minh forces struck across to the Thai border is in itself an admission that for this reason at least, the Reds have decided they cannot succeed in the delta.

However, there is still a comparable dry period left, and observers here hold that the attack on Thakhek, which was made by a comparatively small force of nine battalions, was a diversionary thrust and might have been staged to draw men and arms away from the vital delta perimeter.

If this were the Viet-minh strategy it has failed. The strongest French forces are still centred around Hanoi.

LOST CONFIDENCE
There is no doubt here that the Viet-minh have won valuable propaganda at the expense of little effort in their latest push. Right now they can point to the territory they have gained. The French Union forces have lost confidence and the important supply route to Laos.

The effect of this on a shaky French Parliament is probably very great, particularly with the present issue of negotiations with Ho Chi-minh.

Cutting off of the supply route to Laos is really the only important military objective that the thrust has accomplished.

While strong Viet-minh forces remain in the area, this is bound to create some hardships in Laos. But supplies will probably start moving again in a few months as the wet season begins and the Viet-minh troops will return to their bases.

MELTED AWAY
Politically in Laos, the drive might have some effect of undermining the recent treaty between France and Laos by which France guaranteed Laotian territory.

The agreement could have been a model for similar treaties between France and the other Associated States.

But the invaders have shown France was powerless to prevent a large part of Laos from being overrun.

Meanwhile troops of the "Lao Liberation Army," as the invaders have been referred to, have been melted away. Observers believe that the Ho Chi-minh forces have accomplished their objective in Laos this year.

They predict that the rebels might use the rest of the season in similar efforts to retain the initiative they have so spectacularly won from the French.

But strategists here, admiring the position of Navarre in his Delta defence, say that the Viet-minh general is worth watching.

Some maintain that Navarre should use his wholesale mobility to strike against the coast, to try and seize the cities the Viet-minh used as bases for their drive.

Navarre, they say, might well end this year's campaign on a high note, striking at the coast.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET

(By Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$536,455. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:—

SHARES	BUYERS	SELLERS	SALES
H.K. Bank	1500	0	1533
Union	100	0	1000
Shanghai	100	0	1000
Bank of China	100	0	1000
Bank of Communications	100	0	1000
Bank of East Asia	100	0	1000
Bank of India	100	0	1000
Bank of Japan	100	0	1000
Bank of Korea	100	0	1000
Bank of Siam	100	0	1000
Bank of Thailand	100	0	1000
Bank of Vietnam	100	0	1000
Bank of Laos	100	0	1000
Bank of Cambodia	100	0	1000
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Bank of Malaya	100	0	1000
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Bank of Java	100	0	1000
Bank of Celebes	100	0	1000
Bank of Moluccas	100	0	1000
Bank of Irian	100	0	1000
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Bank of British New Guinea	100	0	1000
Bank of Dutch New Guinea	100	0	1000
Bank of French New Guinea	100	0	1000
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Page 10 MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1954.

**JOHN CLARKE'S
CASEBOOK**

Beyond His Means

A MAN is a poor creature if he has no friends; yet friends, with the best of intentions, may sometimes come near to ruining a man, as the case of David shows.

David is a pleasant, rather serious-looking young man, 21 years old, single. His parents gave him a good education at a public school, but could not provide him with a home life after that, for they had separated. His mother, he knows, is in Scandinavia now. He does not know where his father lives.

After school, David was called up into the Army. He won a commission. When his Army service ended he had, of course, to look for a job.

SHOP-ASSISTANT

It was then that he began to feel the lack of a firm family base from which to operate. There was no one around to give him the kind of advice he needed. Fortunately, he had no false illusions about the need to earn a living. He got himself a job behind the counter of a shop in a Berkshire town.

David stayed there until one day, a few months later, he was told by a friend of the chance of a job in New York.

"I'll mean you coming to London for a time, first, though," he was told.

£2 10s. TO SPEND

DAVID came to London. He saw all the people he was told to see about the job in New York, but he did not get it. Perhaps he tried too hard.

But now he was in London, back from the Berkshire wilderness, among his pleasant friends. He resolved to stay in town. He got another job, as a shop assistant again, in a bookeller's and newsagent's shop.

He did not tell his friends precisely what he did for a living; did not tell them that his pay was £5 10s. a week, or that £3 of that went for his lodgings.

David's friends were mostly richer than him and too polite to ever doubt that he was not as rich as they. They liked him, and they asked him out to parties, dances, week-ends in the country.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

HE did not want to lose his friends, yet could not possibly, on his pay, keep pace with them financially. He began to feel that he was being worked and the other day he was caught stealing.

They brought him to Marlborough Street, where he pleaded guilty to the theft of Christmas cards and books which he meant to sell, he confessed, and money he meant to spend on railway fares to country-house week-ends.

The story was told to Mr. Paul Bennett, VC, the magistrate, who presently called in Mr. Charles Morgan, the probation officer. "This young man," said Mr. Morgan, "is a very clever fellow. He has been living beyond his means. His friends mostly have much more money than he has, and he tells me that week-ends in the country have eaten up his money."

'PRIDE'

"BUT the only money he's charged with stealing is 4s. 6d.," the magistrate said. "Am I to infer that he has been stealing other money wholesale?"

"Yes, I have," David broke in. "I've taken quite a lot of money, and I mean to sell the books."

"What do you want to say in mitigation of this to the position you are in?" the magistrate asked, and added, "The fact that you've had a good education only makes it the worse."

"I suppose I've lack of moral principles," David said unhappily. "It's pride I suppose. My friends didn't quite know my position, and I tried not to let them know. I've had a rather disjointed sort of life, I've always had to fend for myself. You must go to prison," the magistrate said, "for three months." "Yes, sir," said David, and with his chin up went away.

OUR AUSTRALIAN NEWSLETTER

Attention Is Now Riveted On Royal Visit

FROM H. KING WOOD

Sydney, Dec. 31.

Now that the Christmas rush is over, everything is being geared to the Royal visit. Right through the holidays, with the exception of Christmas Day itself, gangs of men have been at work cleaning up public buildings.

It would be anyone's guess how many gallons of paint have been poured onto Sydney buildings over the last few months, but there is no doubt that it has all helped to give the old place a face-lift.

In Adelaide a panel of four experts have begun to select the wines which the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will drink at official functions in Australia.

A South Australian wine-maker has criticised the decision of New Zealand to serve French wines at official functions.

"It is just rubbish," he said. "Lifers who will appear before the Queen at a surf carnival at Bondi, will have to wear full costume, and not the universally adopted trunks."

The Queen will visit the carnival only for half an hour and the chief has been issued—No hats, please!

Sydney—siders, who are generally considered not to let an honest—or dishonest—penny slip by, seem to be extremely backward in cashing in on the Royal tour.

A Sydney reporter asked the occupants of flats and residential on the route of the Queen's drive. If they would hire space at a window or balcony.

Almost without exception they looked at him in stunned silence. By far the bigger majority said they were sorry they could not help, but they would be filling all available space with relatives and children. A few asked for time to think it over. The only firm quote was from one man who asked for 10/- a head. Considering the price in London for the Coronation was up to £40 a seat, this could be classed as cut rates for a Royal procession in Sydney.

'X'MAS IN OUTBACK'

Peyster of the inland train, known as the Chian after the camel trains which used to make the journey, was left stranded in the lonely Gibber Desert with his dumper on Christmas Day.

The Chian was on its way to Alice Springs and had reached a little siding called Mt Emery, 180 miles from Oodnadatta, when it developed serious engine trouble. The paymaster at the time was preparing his Christmas dinner in his special van at the rear of the train. A number of carriages were uncoupled for a time, and when the Chian headed back to Oodnadatta to have the engine repaired, the paymaster's van was left alone on the desert.

He went on with his dinner and was picked up when the train returned late in the evening.

The Chian arrived at Alice Springs many hours late, but according to legend it has arrived on time only once in history—and found no one prepared for its arrival.

And while talking of the outback, 157 country children in New South Wales who have never seen the sea are now at the seaside holiday resort of Manly for three weeks.

All the youngsters are between the ages of 10 and 12 years and live more than 300 miles from Sydney.

They are attending a Far West Health Camp that was begun 20 years ago. Each year the organisation brings this number of youngsters to the seaside and while there gives them a medical and dental check-up.

It is one of our very good movements.

A BIT TOO MUCH

His Serene Highness, Prince Ferdinand, and his American-born Princess, Dorothy, arrived in Sydney last week on what is an unofficial goodwill mission.

The Prince was quite happy to be here. He beamed on everyone. His stay, he said, looked like being most enjoyable.

Then the hotel where he is staying charged him £4 for Christmas dinner, and that seemed to take the shine off it all.

"I don't mind the money," he said, "but I don't like being made a fool of."

The Prince is a cousin of the present ruler of the tiny Liechtenstein monarchy between Switzerland and Austria. He

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"I couldn't bear being engaged to a man for 12 years—yet father insists I finish school and go through college!"

Dangerous Drug Case Continues

Evidence of the arrest of the two accused was given this morning at the Criminal Sessions in the trial of two Shanghai men, Wong Tak-sang, alias Wong Yam, 52, broker, and Wong Kin-ming, 30, chauffeur, on charges of conspiracy and possession of dangerous drugs.

The accused are charged with (1) conspiracy on various dates between April 1, 1951, and March 28, 1953, with others not named, to manufacture morphine and heroin; (2) conspiracy on various dates in the same period, with others not named, to deal in opium, morphine and heroin; (3) possession on March 28, 1953, of 256 lbs of raw opium, 804 ounces of directly morphine hydrochloride (heroin), 8 lbs of crude morphine, 18 ounces of impure morphine and 11 ounces of morphine hydrochloride; and (4) possession of 1.7 grammes of raw opium on the same date.

Both accused pleaded not guilty to all counts.

The Prosecution is conducted by Mr. D. F. Wright, M.P., Crown Counsel, assisted by Mr. W. B. Scraggs, ASP, ADCI (Kowloon), and Det. Sub-Insps. J. E. H. Hadden. Both accused are represented by Mr. D. A. L. Wright, instructed by Hastings and Co.

The trial is before Mr. Justice A. D. Scholes and a Jury of six men and a woman.

Det. Sub-Insps. Jones Yuen-lee, said that the Police Party went to 13 Wang Tung Terrace on the evening of March 28, and after leaving a man to watch a Studebaker parked outside they went into the premises and found the first and second accused in the passage way.

MAN SEARCHED

Insp. Jones said that when the Police revealed their identity the first accused gave his name as Wong Tung Terrace and address as 13 Leighton Hill Road, second floor. He was searched by Det. Insp. Hadden who took possession of a watch and chain with keys attached.

When the Police asked the second accused to assist them in their enquiries concerning dangerous drugs, he said he wanted time to think, said Insp. Jones. After sitting in silence for about 15 minutes the second accused then said "If I tell you where the opium is, you people will be in trouble and I'll be in trouble and I'll be in trouble."

He told the accused that that could not be helped.

Sometime later the second accused suddenly took a piece of paper out of his pocket and wrote the words "65, Garage Robinson Road." He then tore up the paper and held the fragments in his hand.

Insp. Jones said that he asked for the pieces of paper, but the second accused refused to hand them over and he did not know what became of them, but the Police Party then proceeded to Robinson Road in two cars.

The second accused was in a car with Insp. Hadden and himself, continued the witness. Along Robinson Road they stopped when the second accused pointed out a garage, which they found was No. 61 and not No. 65.

The door was padlocked but

Jewellery Shop Robbery Sequel: 9 Men Charged

An account of how a jewellery shop foki followed a gang of armed robbers from street to street in the Central District immediately after they had robbed the jewellery shop of \$39,736.40 worth of gold articles, was related before Mr. J. Pakenham-Walsh at Central this morning, when nine men faced committal proceedings on a charge of robbery.

According to the Police, the foki succeeded in tracking down the address where the robbers went, and informed the Police, with the result that arrests were made and all the gold recovered within an hour of the robbery.

The accused were Chan Hung, alias Leung Yat, 22, Pak Man, 27, Li Shun, alias Li Kau-ye, 28, Kwong Sze, alias Sze Ko, 48, Leung Siu-kei, 31, Wong Sze-yu, 30, Wong Kwok-yiu, 28, Wong Shul-man, 22, and Leung Sze, 40.

They were charged with armed robbery on October 11, last year, at the Nam Shing Goldsmith Shop, 184 Queen's Road Central. The stolen goods consisted of 76 gold chains, 34 plain bangles, 36 flower pattern bangles, 48 gold pendants, two gold brooches, 11 gold wrist watch bands and 50 gold bracelets.

The first three accused were additionally charged with possession of three .38 revolvers and 24 rounds of ammunition without a licence.

Chief Inspector A. F. Cochrane told the Bench in his outline of the case that at about 11 a.m. on October 11, 1953, two Chinese men walked into the Nam Shing Goldsmith Shop. Each man carried a large black handbag. The two produced revolvers and threatened the people in the shop.

The two men then broke the glass of the showcase with the butts of their revolvers and helped themselves to the gold, which they put inside the handbags they were carrying.

THREATENING

While this was taking place, a third robber was seen outside the entrance of the shop. He was also armed with a revolver, and was threatening the people outside and giving encouragement to the other two robbers in the shop.

Inspector Cochrane said it was the Prosecution's case that the man outside was the third accused, and the other two were the first and second accused.

He went on to say that the robbers then left. A foki of the shop, named Chung, followed them from a safe distance. He saw the robbers turn into Wellington Street in an Easterly direction. At one point, it appeared that the robbers sensed they were being followed, for one of them turned and walked back a little. Chung also retreated when this happened, but resumed his pursuit when the robber joined the gang once more.

The foki then saw the three men turn into an alleyway leading to a place called Kau U Fong. He decided it would be unwise to go into that alley, and took the next street to that place, where he caught sight of them again.

DIALED 999

Eventually, he saw the robbers enter Gough Street, and go into either House No. 37 or 39. He dialed 999 from a barbershop, with the result that shortly afterwards, a large Police party raided 37 Gough Street, ground floor.

The ninth accused was taken into custody on the ground floor, he was about to escape. The first and second accused were found hiding behind a curtain in the cockpit. They had each a revolver with them. The third accused was found under a bed, also armed with a revolver.

The two handbags containing the whole amount of stolen gold articles were found in the cockpit. As a result of further information, all the other accused were arrested the same day in various parts of the Colony, and charged the same day.

When the second accused was arrested, it was found that one of his hands was cut and bleeding, and this was apparently caused by the smashing of the glass on the showcase in the jewellery shop. Inspector Cochrane went on: "A small piece of glass was later found wedged in one of the revolvers. In the cockpit of the Gough Street address was also found some paraphernalia for the smelting and weighing of gold."

Hearing is proceeding.

100 Years Ago

To the Editor of the "China Mail."

Dear Sir.—It would seem as if Socialism, which hitherto has scarcely had an existence in this colony—having been like the Investigator in its Arctic voyage, surrounded with, or rather embedded in, apparently eternal ice—was at length about to burst its fetters, and like the gilded butterfly, desert the chrysalis, and expand its wings in the glorious sunshine of more perfect enjoyment.

"Tis a consummation" (as Hamlet says) "devoutly to be wish'd,"—and for which in no small measure we shall be indebted to our American visitors. It is true the good work was begun last year by the Theatrical Committee; and if those who then graced the performances with their presence now hesitate to draw their purse-strings and assist in defraying the necessary expenses, at all the events they seemed to have come to enjoy the performances of our amateurs, and encouraged them with their applause.

The closing of the Victoria Theatre from the cause I have above hinted at, would have left a void difficult for the colonists to fill, had not our Yankee brothers stepped into our aid (as they would assuredly do in much more important matters) and by a series of performances materially conducted to our enjoyment assisting the genius of harmony in driving the dark and lazy spirit of ennui from our door.

ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELS

The Amateurs of the Susquehanna first gave several entertainments on board the cable vessel "Uran" the Powhatan's Ethiopian Minstrels called forth bursts of laughter from the audience that covered her ample decks.

The late Theatrical Committee, whose motto would seem to be "Nil desperandum," determined not to be behind-hand, got up a Sub-singion Ball in the Theatre on Monday evening, which was exceedingly well attended, and, barring the lights, admirably managed, dancing to the Susquehanna's band (the Yankees again to the rescue) having been kept up with spirit till the

"Wee short hours spent the dawn" were past and gone—counted among the things that have been. Next came the "Fires and Accepted Masons," whose Annual Banquet came off on Tuesday. But even they for once relaxed their stringent rules; for yesterday evening, in the friends (non-masons of course, but the mothers, wives, or sisters of masons) to a lunch in their splendid hall.

The Susquehanna again, last night, though "Cold and bitter blew the blast" had a crowded house (Ship), and well merited the hearty plaudits which greeted their endeavours.

JOLLY FESTIVITIES

So much for the jollity of our Christmas festivities—but what has come over our "merry Masons," now they have got a dwelling in the City, can call it their own, they don't give us a second benefit in the form of a Ball? especially when it was universally acknowledged by the best judges—the ladies, that their last surpassed any other fete in Hongkong.

Governor's, Race, and Raffle included, at which the lovers of the terpsichorean art have "tripp'd the light fantastic too." Query, How much of the marked improvement in the Art of Masonry in Hongkong, exclusive of its own intrinsic merits, of which the initiated have no means of judging, is due to the favourable impression made by the gentle courtesy which marks the order, as displayed at the laying of the foundation stone of the Masonic Hall?—Yours obediently, K.

ANTI-GOUT.

The Mail is not in, though every minute this forenoon she has been looked for, guns having been fired at that interval. The reason why, we understand to be the death of the Vice-President of the United States, an event which occurred the better part of a year ago, and has been known and forgotten here for months; but it seems the announcement has only been officially brought by the Washington, which did not start till her voyage had been nearly in China Sea, she can call it Mail, and which, being tail-on, is in the movement, "up and down" in the voyage.

What's His Line? Solution

ENTERTAINMENT

London, Jan. 3.

The government of Prime Minister Winston Churchill prepared today for what may be the last ditch attempt to avert "guerrilla" strikes by the Communist-led Electrical Trades Union in key atomic plants and other major industries.

ETU officials are to meet tomorrow with officials of the Labour Ministry but observers saw little hope that the threatened series of crippling walkouts could be averted.

The Union thus far has firmly rejected suggestions that it claim for "substantive" wage increases to be submitted to arbitration. Employers also have objected to arbitration and tomorrow's talks with the government officials are considered as possibly the last attempt to remove the strike threat.—United Press.

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